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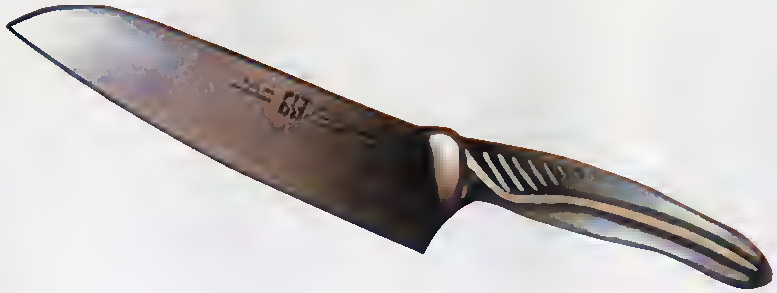

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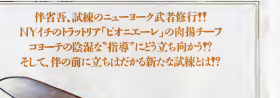

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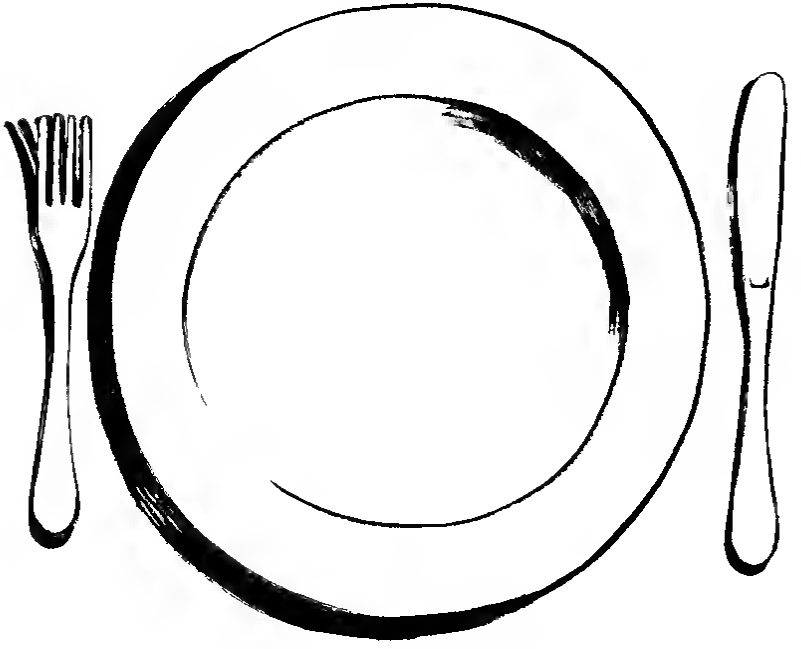

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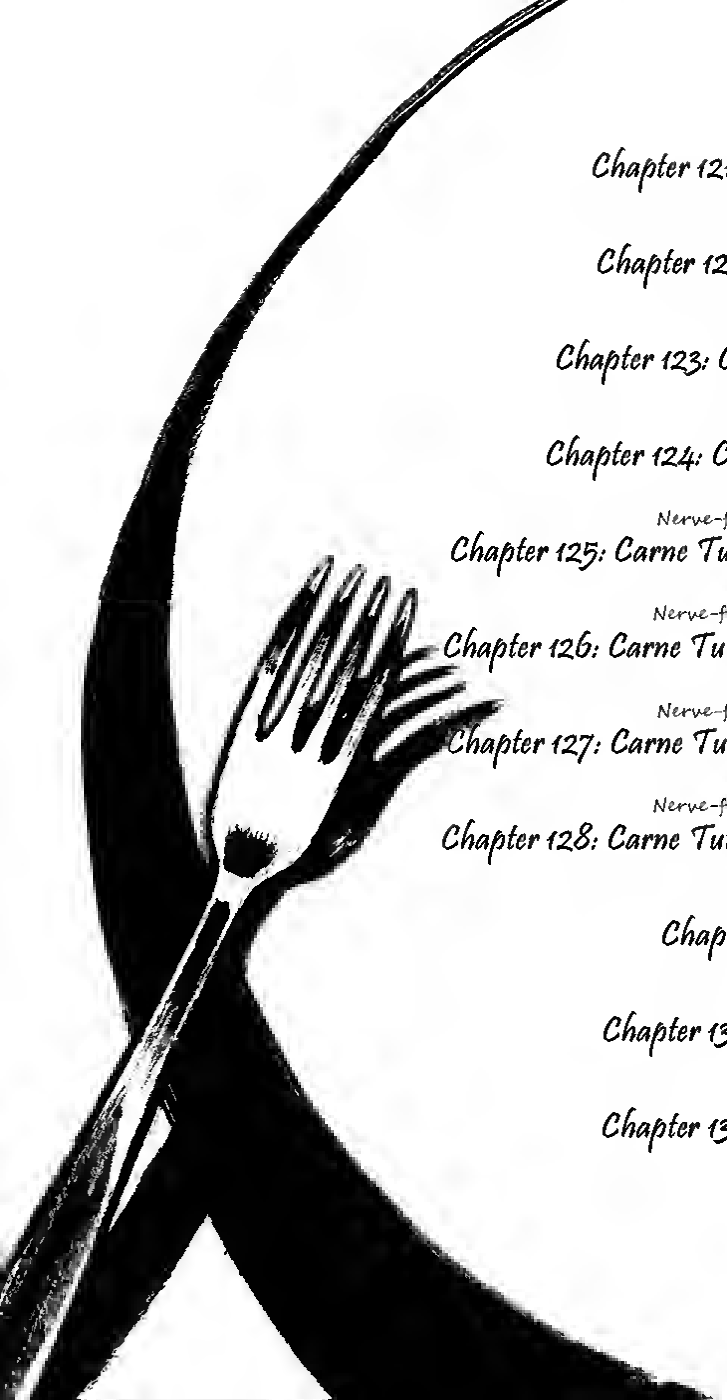

Add
Chapter 121: Aggiungere 005

Cool
Chapter 122: Intiepidire 023

Huntsman
Chapter 123: Cacciatore (1) 041

Huntsman
Chapter 124: Cacciatore (2) 059

Nerve-filled Meat
Chapter 125: Carne Tutta Nervi (1) 079

Nerve-filled Meat
Chapter 126: Carne Tutta Nervi (2) 097

Nerve-filled Meat
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Nerve-filled Meat
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Bud
Chapter 129: Erba 151

Hunt
Chapter 130: Caccia (1) 170

Hunt
Chapter 131: Caccia (2) 187

Chapter 121: Aggiungere

OOF!

WHAT CAN I USE?
ANYTHING IN THE KITCHEN IS FAIR GAME.

THOUGH YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE ENOUGH FOR FIFTY, SO ROAST BEEF AND FOIE GRAS WOULD PROBABLY BE OUT, RIGHT?

2

THIS IS THE ATLANTIC SALMON THAT CAME IN TODAY.
IT'S HUGE!
IT'S GOTTA BE DELICIOUS!

GOTCHA...
THEN DO WE HAVE ANY FISH? WHAT'VE WE GOT TODAY?

Uhh... Please give me
Shimeji mushroom?
Okay
ポン
ポン
SURE.
COULD YOU FILLET THAT FOR ME REAL QUICK?
BAN-SAN IS REALLY RARING TO GO, ISN'T HE?
PROBABLY GLAD HE'S FINALLY GOT A CHANCE TO COOK.
ゴリッ

ザ
ザ
ゴリッ
ゴリッ
ゴリッ
ALRIGHT!

MAKIN' FOOD FOR THE COOKS IS A GREAT CHANCE FOR A CHEF TO SHOW OFF HIS SKILLS.
Thanks for finishing that all so fast! Couldn't have done it sooner myself!
You want some too?
Understand?
I'LL MAKE YOU SHUT UP, DAMMIT!

Chapter 121: Aggiungere

■ TRATTORIA PIONIERE 3:45 PM
LOOKS DELICIOUS!
YOU CAN SEE THE FAT SHINING ON THE SURFACE ...

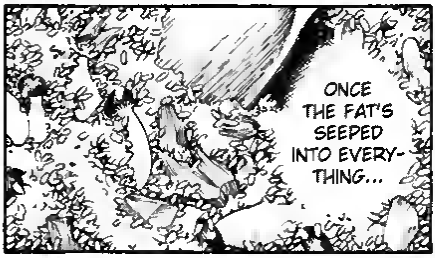
COOK THE SALMON EVENLY ON BOTH SIDES, THEN BREAK INTO CHUNKS.

ADD SHIMEJI MUSHROOMS TO A HEATED POT WITH OLIVE OIL AND ROAST AT LOW HEAT.

ヤアアア

ADD THE CHUNKED SALMON...

ザク…
ザク…


ONCE THE FAT'S SEEPED INTO EVERY-THING...

ポン

ADD RICE.

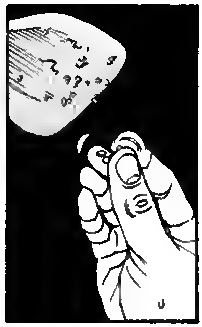
POUR IN WHITE WINE.
TURN UP THE HEAT, EVAPORATING THE ALCOHOL AND WATER.

POUR IN JUST ENOUGH BRODO DI POLLO TO COVER THE INGREDIENTS...
...AND THE BLANCHED CAULIFLOWER.
ADD ROUGH CHOPPED CABBAGE ...

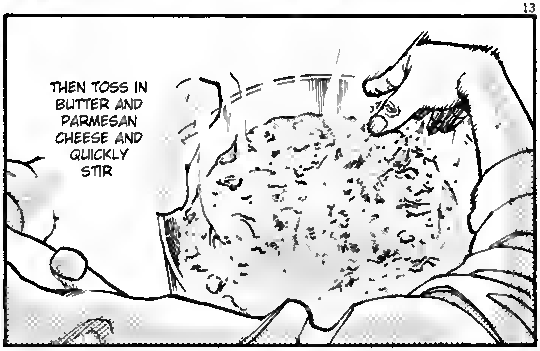
I thought the Japonés would make something special, but...
It's just risotto.
KEEP SIMMERING FOR ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES, ALTERNATING BETWEEN ADDING BRODO AND WATER.

Least he coulda done was make us some sushi or tempura.

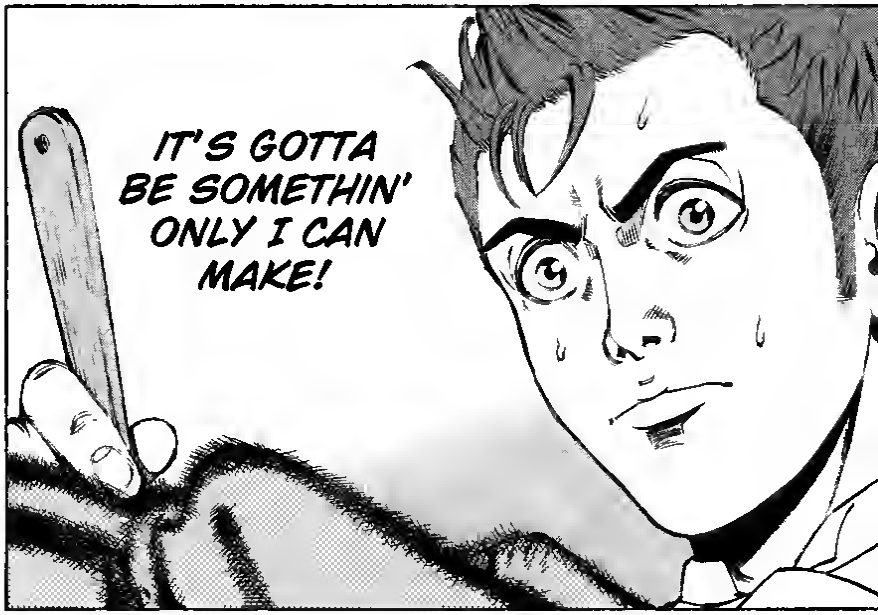
WHEN THE RICE IS SOFT AND READY, ADD SALT TO TASTE.

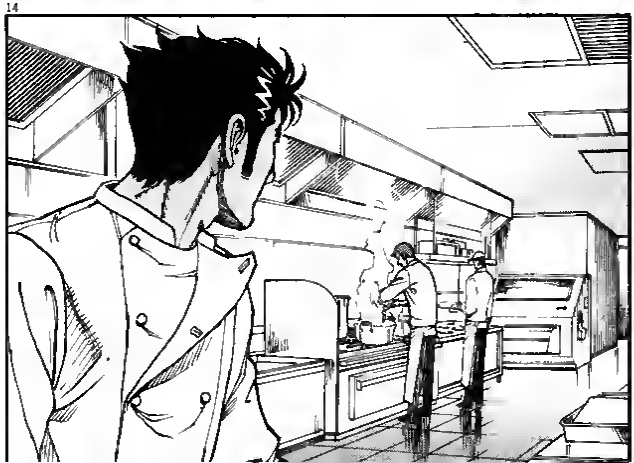


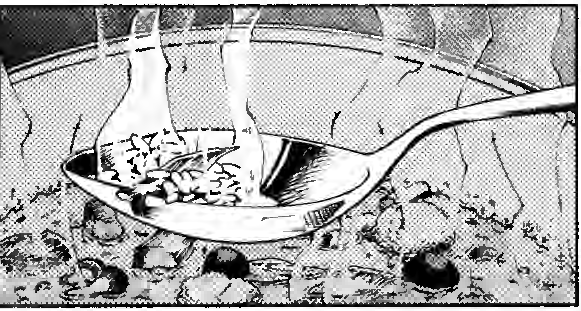
13


THEN TOSS IN BUTTER AND PARMESAN CHEESE AND QUICKLY STIR

AIN'T ENOUGH FOR IT JUST TO BE TASTY...


IT'S GOTTA BE SOMETHIN' ONLY I CAN MAKE!





.....
DONE!

...WHAT'S THAT PASTE?

SPRINKLE AGAIN WITH PARMESAN CHEESE...

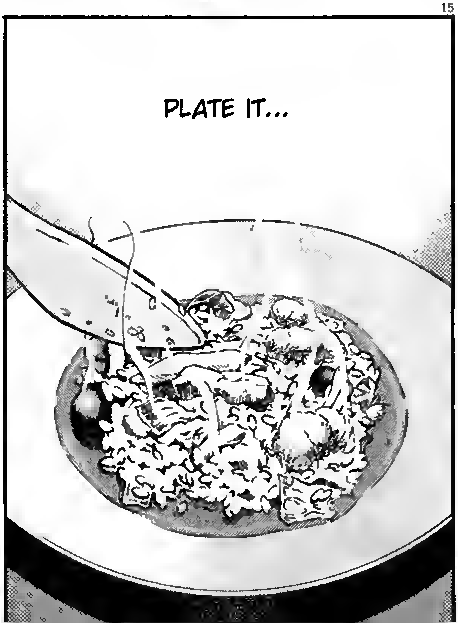
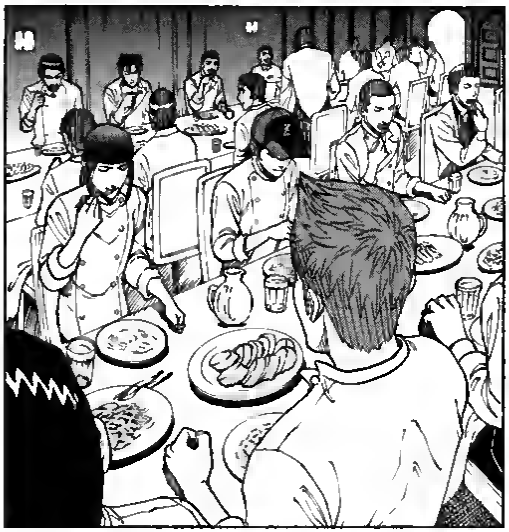


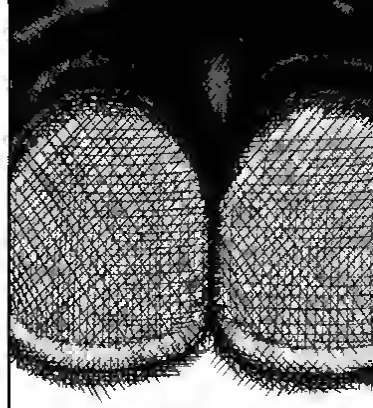
PLATE IT...

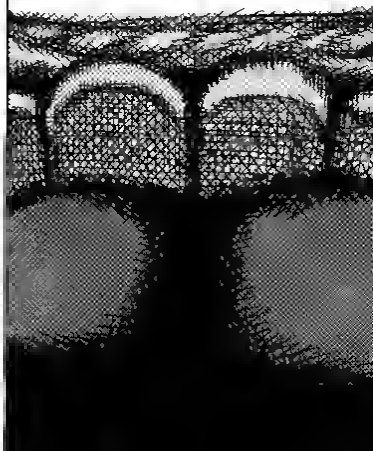
Meals are ready!
FINISH IT OFF BY SEARING THE TOP LIGHTLY WITH A BLOW-TORCH.
ゴオオオオ
ヒュッ

Well, here goes nothing

シアアア
Cool
Chapter 122: Intiepidire
WOW, THIS IS AWE-SOME!
WHAT'S THIS CALLED, MOMMY?
ばっ ばっ
THIS IS CALLED...







Not bad.
.....
.....
This stuff's pretty good.
What's this strange flavor?
What is the name of this dish?
Mister Ban.

Chan chan risotto?
The hell is chan chan?
Funny name, ain't it...
Hahaha
IT'S CALLED CHAN CHAN RISOTTO!
Chapter 122
Cool
Intiepidire

AH, COULD YOU INTERPRET FOR ME, ASUKA-SHAN?
THIS CHAN CHAN RISOTTO IS MADE BY...
PIONIERE
DON'T BLOCK THE BOX
ONE WAY

THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS DISH CAME FROM JAPANESE REGIONAL COOKING. I MADE IT THINKING OF A DISH CALLED CHAN CHAN YAKI.
He says that this risotto...
came from a regional Japanese dish called chan chan yaki.

IT'S MADE BY BOILING SALMON, CABBAGE,

AND THE STUFF THAT REALLY MAKES IT SPECIAL ...

Aha...

AND IN SEASON VEGETABLES!

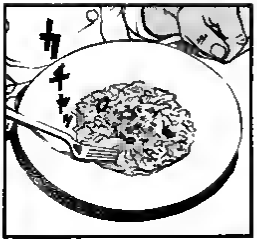
THIS IS THE FIRST DISH I MADE AFTER I CAME TO NEW YORK.
So that paste was actually miso
That's what was behind this taste, huh?
Miso? You mean like miso soup?
MISO ACTUALLY GOES REALLY WELL WITH CHEESE

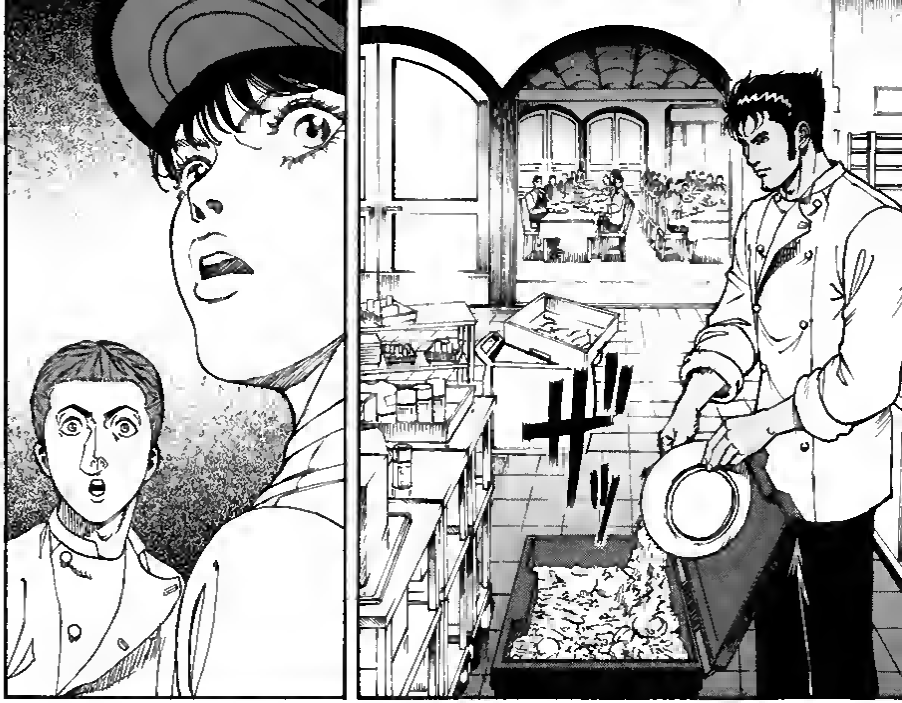
I WANTED YOU ALL TO TRY RISOTTO COOKED BY A JAPANESE GUY!

Good job!
...Pretty good.
Excellent!

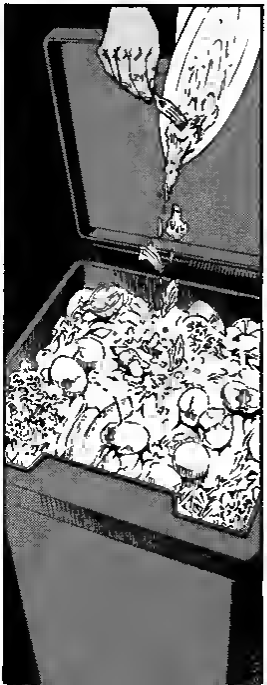
THEY LIKE IT, BAMBI!
THANK YOU!

A country hick's cooking.





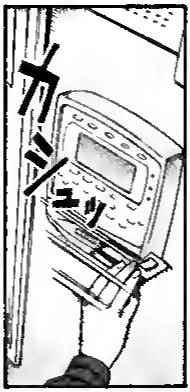
I can't eat this stuff.



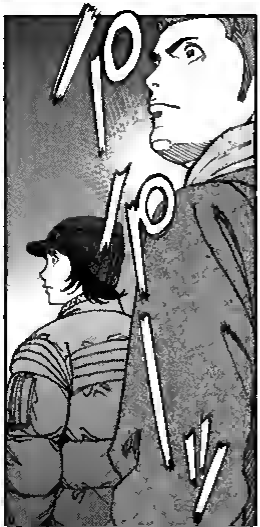
Bambi!

Clean up the pantry when you're done eating.

IS WHAT COYOTE SAID STILL BOTHERING YOU?
バコッ
YEAH


カシュッ

PIONIERE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DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU!
LET'S JUST GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP!
WHAT'S COYOTE'S PROBLEM WITH ME?
カン
カン
カン
カン

BAMBI... JUST IGNORE HIM.
COME ON. LET'S GO.
ASUKA-SHAN...
GO ON WITHOUT ME.
Got something to talk about.
Get in.
Yo, Bambi.
WAY

KING TERRY'S
PIERCING
ART STUDIO
TATTOO K.T
PIERCING
ART
STUDIO

...WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

YOU JAPANESE?
AH... YEAH.

GOTCHA
...
YOU WANNA WATCH YOURSELF AROUND COYOTE.
HE'S... WELL, HE'S DANGEROUS.
Here.

Well, then...
Your cooking... was good.
Shinji, interpret for me.

Bambi,
there's something
I want you to
help me with.

Chapter 123: Cacciatore (1)

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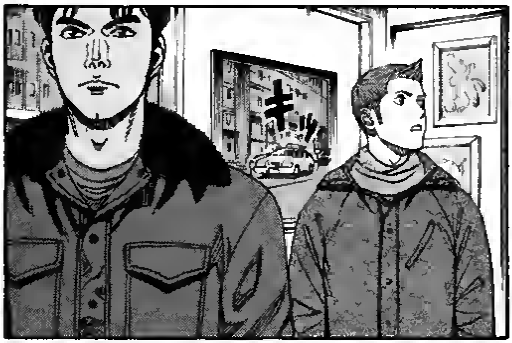
バムッ
バコッ

キッ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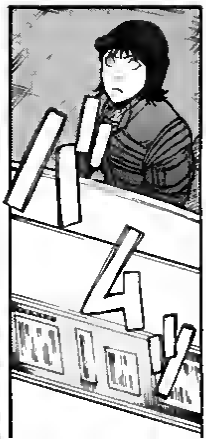
2

KING TERRY'S
PIERCING
ART STUDIO
A TATTOO PARLOR?

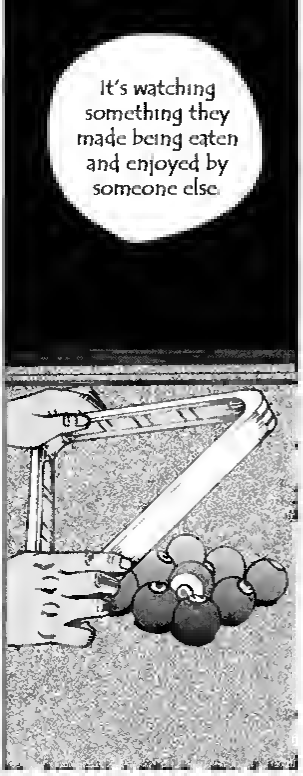


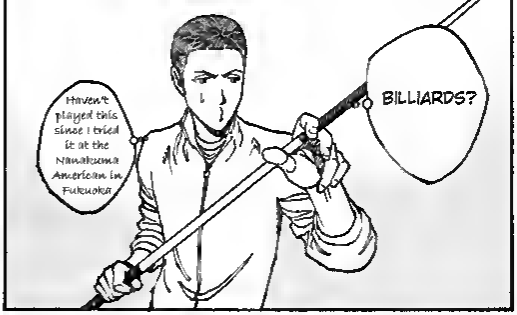
WHAT WAS COYOTE THINKING, BRINGING HIM HERE?
ゴッ
ゴッ
ゴッ
"YOUR FOOD WAS GOOD."
"I WANT YOU TO HELP ME WITH MY WORK."
...IS WHAT HE SAYS.

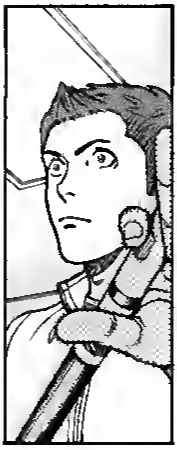
Huntsman

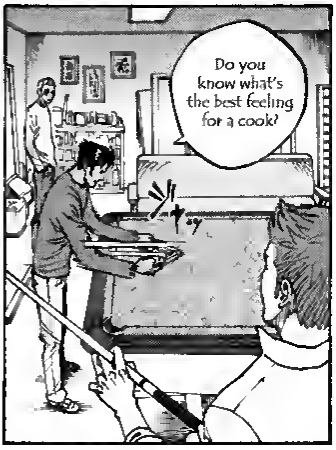
Chapter 123: Cacciatore (1)

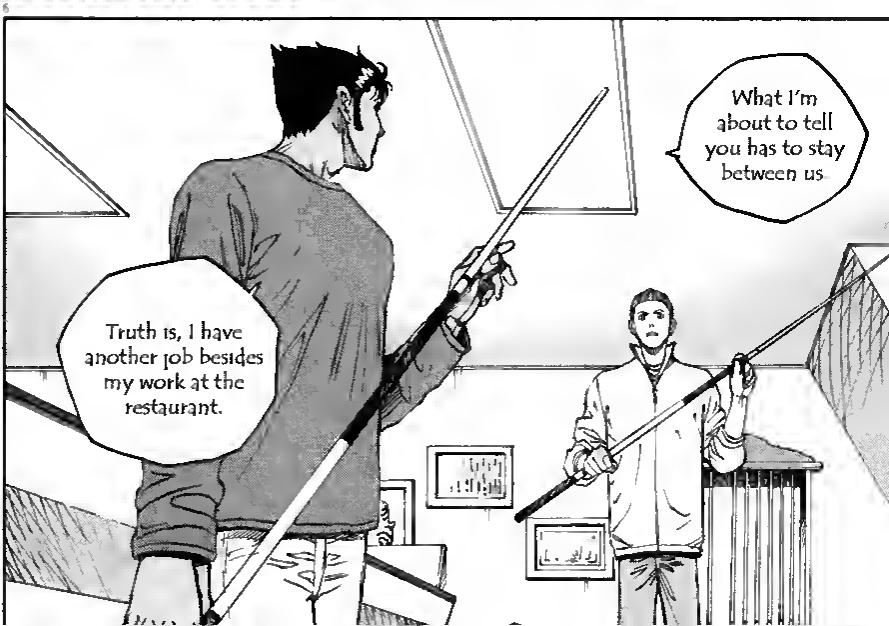
Ain't something to discuss here...
You too, Shinji
Come on, Bambi...


It's watching something they made being eaten and enjoyed by someone else.


BILLIARDS?
Haven't played this since I tried it at the Nanatsuma American in Fukuoka



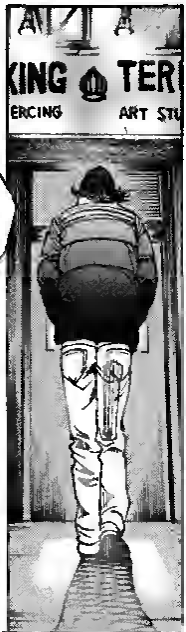

Do you know what's the best feeling for a cook?


What I'm about to tell you has to stay between us.
Truth is, I have another job besides my work at the restaurant.

I run a catering service.

Hi! Come right in.

KING TERR
PIERCING
ART STUD

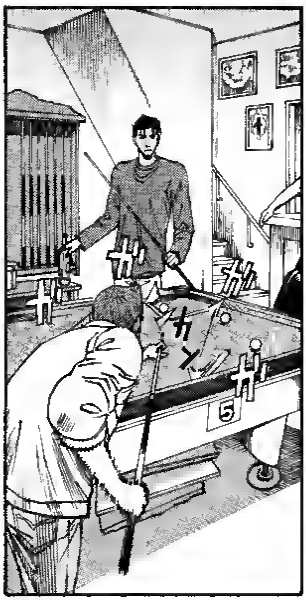

KING TER
ERCING
ART STU

Well...
And what're we here to do tonight, darling?
Tattoos? Piercings? Sewing? Or maybe some implants?
Oh, you're Japanese?
You are SO cute, honey
I know both of them!
I actually need to see some people who just came here ..
A Mexican and a Japanese guy were just here, right?
No, no, hun!
I can't kiss and tell about my customers, not even for you
Look at your skin. It's just gorgeous.

How about it, darling? Let me work my magic on that beautiful skin of yours?
I'll make sure you don't regret it...
Sports stars.
You can cook for a wide variety of people.
Actors.
Artists.

But it's all worth it, and more, when you get to see the client enjoy your food with your own eyes
You have to go your client's house to cook,
so the unfamiliar kitchen can be an obstacle...

I had a partner...
But we had a disagreement. Had to let him go
SO UP TILL NOW YOU WORKED ALONE?


ガ
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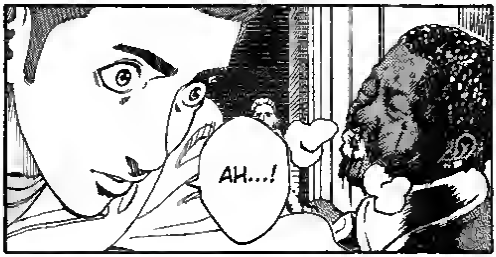
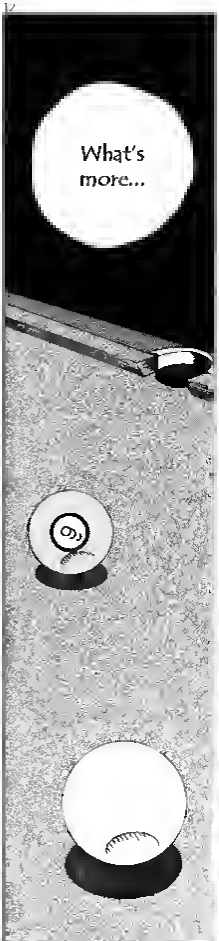
カン
5

Remember the guy I was beating up the night you met me?
5


AH...!

Well anyway There's a job coming up in a month
One I can't afford to slip up on
I want you to be my assistant for that job.

Well, Bambi? What do you say?
It'll be a good experience for you, right?


What's more...

BUT WHY ME?
YOU DON'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT ME.

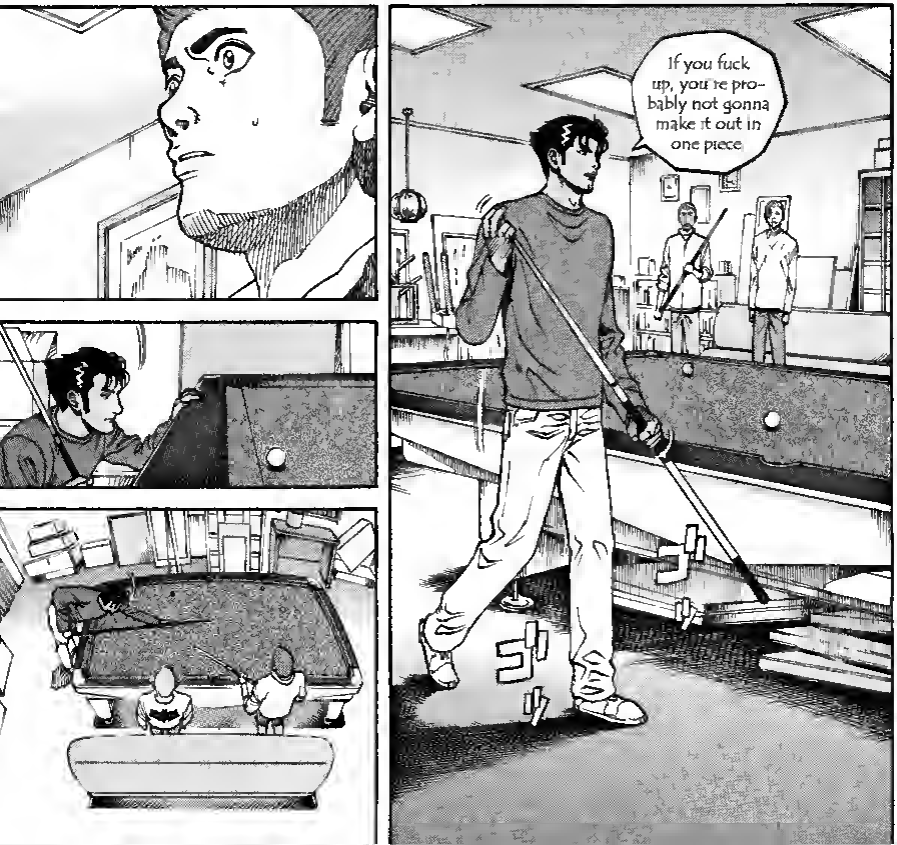
I could tell how skilled you are when I ate your cooking today.

I need someone with balls to work with me on this one.
You were ready to fight me on the day you met me.
I need guts like that.
SO, UHH... WHO'S YOUR CLIENT GONN BE NEXT MONTH?

The Italian Mafia.

Shinji!!
HUH? WHA?
RUN FOR IT!
DUDE! I TOLD YOU HE'S DANGER-OUS!

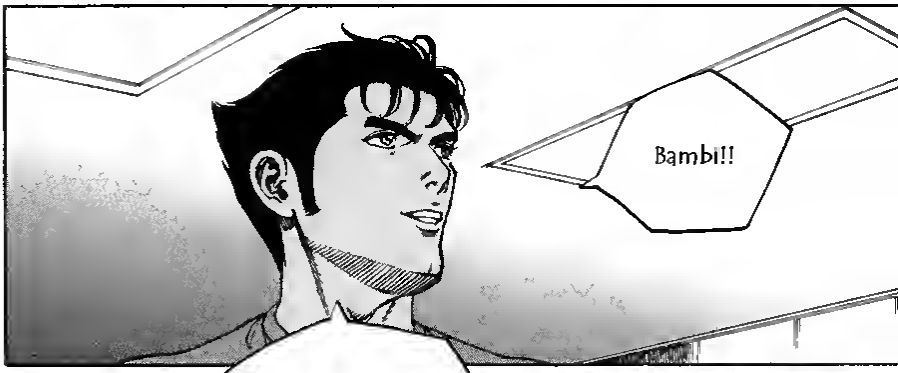
It's just a home party, even if it's for mobsters.
ゴトッ
カツ
カツ
Doesn't mean that makes it okay to relax, though.
Shut up and interpret!
Well...


If you fuck up, you're probably not gonna make it out in one piece.
ゴッ

You understand, right? Since you're a chef, too.
But doesn't that make it even more exciting!

THIS GUY'S ...
17
ダン ダン ヤ
BAMBI!
I KNOW YOU'RE DOWN THERE!
ダン
ダン
ダン ツ
...ADDICTED TO COOKING!

ASUKA-SHAN?
WE'RE LEAVING!
HAHAHAHA


Bambi!!

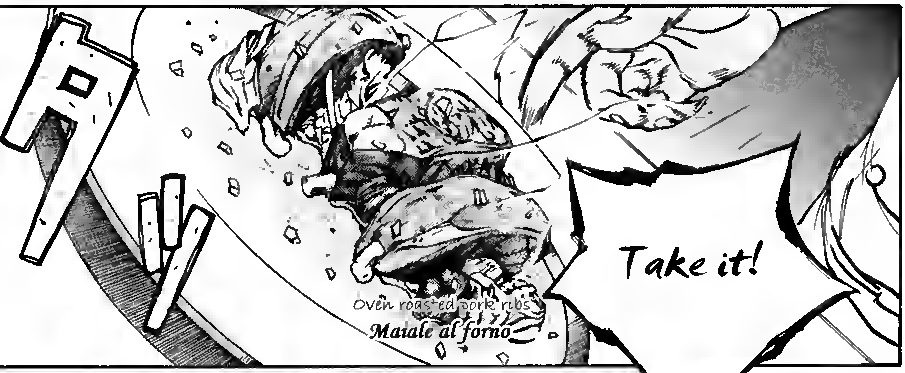
What I said. Think about it.

Huntsman

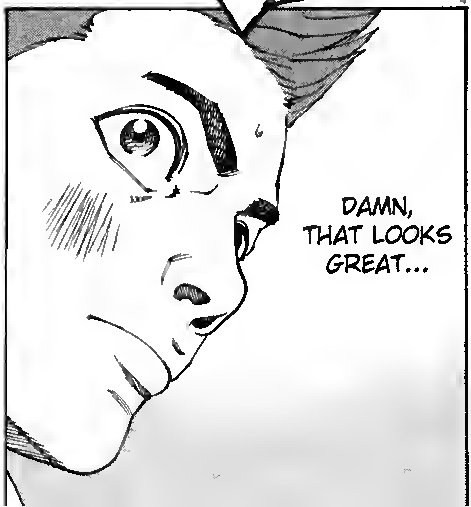
Chapter 124: Cacciatore (2)

WHERE'S THE SCAMP!?!
You're useless!
IT'S ALREADY BEEN A WEEK SINCE ASUKA AND BAMBI LEFT FOR NEW YORK HUH...
WORRIED ABOUT THEM?
OF COURSE NOT!

PARK
PARK
Huntsman
Chapter 124: Cacciatore (2)


Take it!
Oven roasted pork ribs
Maiale al forno

PIONIERE
PIONIERE
NEW YORK
TRATTORIA PIONIERE


DAMN, THAT LOOKS GREAT...

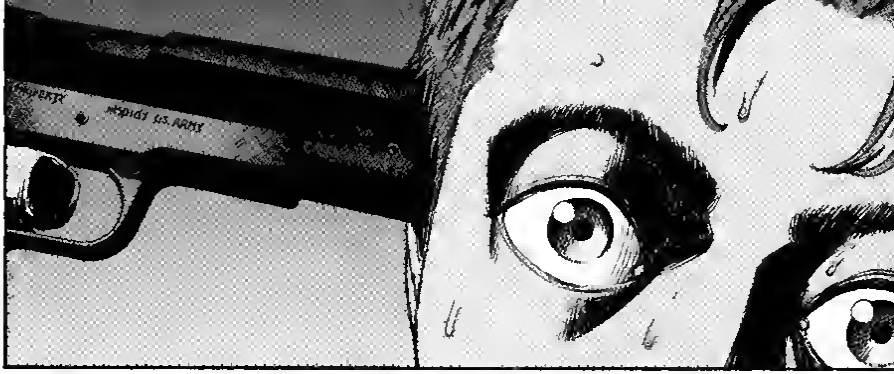
IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE I STARTED WORKING HERE IN PIONIERE'S KITCHEN...
AS FOR WHAT I'M WORKIN' ON, WELL... I MADE IT OUTTA THE FRIDGE, AT LEAST.

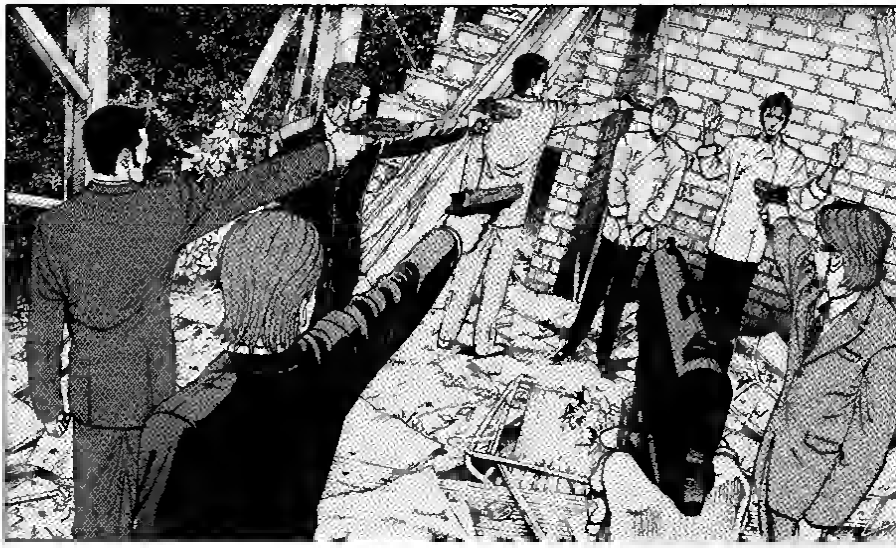
I'M STILL STUCK ON PREPARING THE MEAT, BUT...
HAHA ...

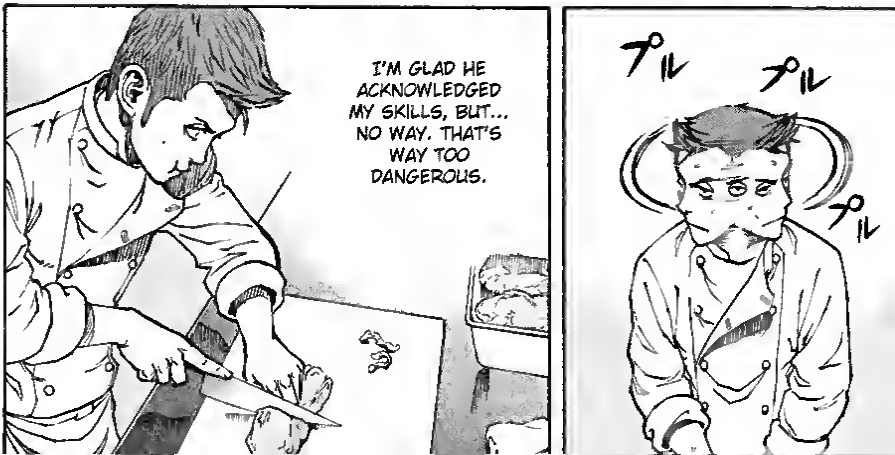
I've got a job coming in a month.
One I can't afford to slip up on.
I want you to be my assistant for that job

The Italian Mafia.
SO WHO'S YOUR CLIENT FOR NEXT MONTH'S JOB?

IF THEY DIDN'T LIKE OUR COOKING, THEN...
YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU DO A CATERING JOB FOR THE ITALIAN MAFIA?!


U.S. ARMY




I'M GLAD HE ACKNOWLEDGED MY SKILLS, BUT... NO WAY. THAT'S WAY TOO DANGEROUS.
プル
プル
プル

But doesn't that make it even more exciting?
I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF COOKING FOR GUESTS LIKE THAT... NO TELLIN' WHAT'D HAPPEN TO ME.
IT'S BEEN FIVE DAYS SINCE THEN... I AIN'T GIVEN COYOTE AN ANSWER EITHER WAY ABOUT IT.

Take it!

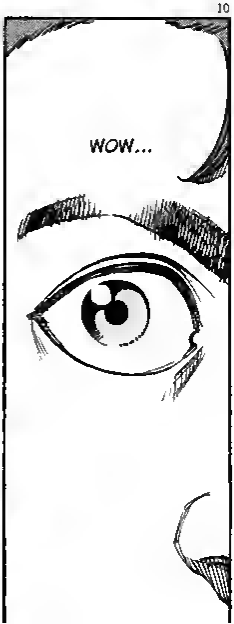
Wild boar tagliata
Tagliata di cinghiale

AN' COYOTE AIN'T SAID NOTHING ABOUT IT, EITHER...
I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

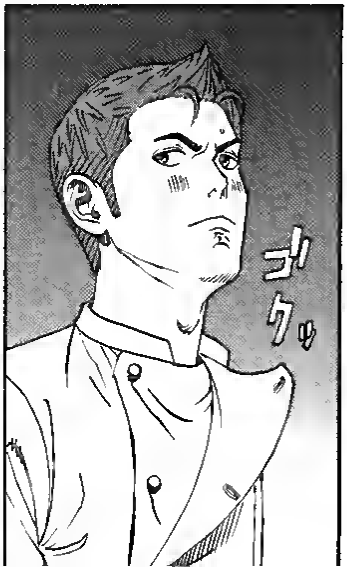
Grilled lamb on the bone
Griglia di agnello

Tirolese style roast rabbit
Coniglio arrosto alla tirolese

HE'S DONE A HELL OF A LOT OF RESEARCH, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT.
COYOTE CAN MAKE MEAT DISHES FROM ALL OVER ITALY, AND THEY COME OUT LOOKING DELICIOUS EVERY TIME.


WOW...

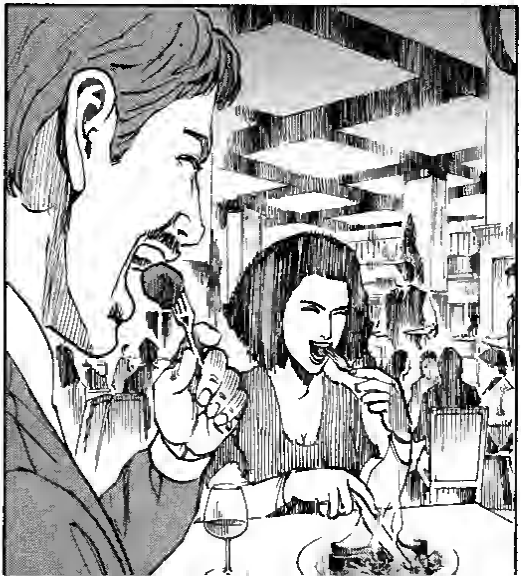
Florentine style steak
Bistecca alla fiorentina

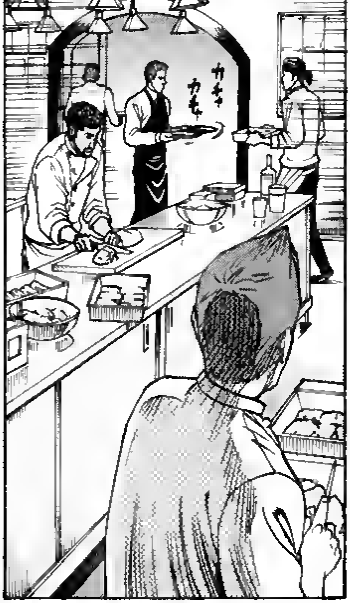


MEAT!!
MEAT
...

WONDER
HOW IT
TASTES?

IF I
COULD
JUST HAVE
ONE BITE
...





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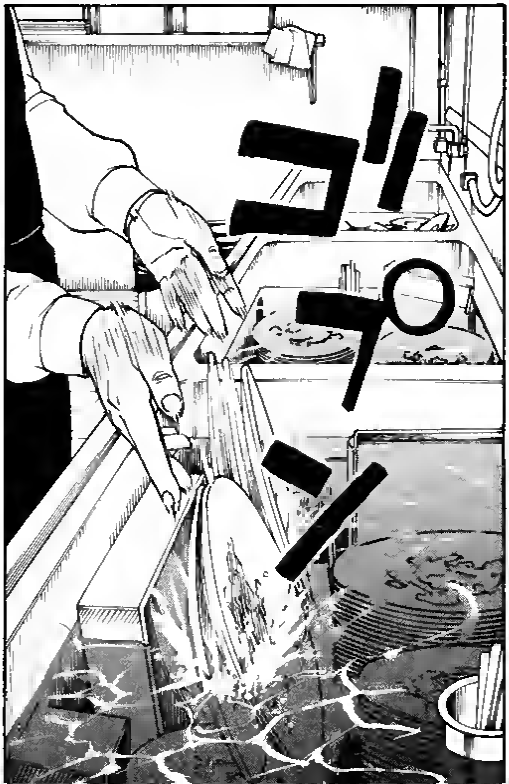
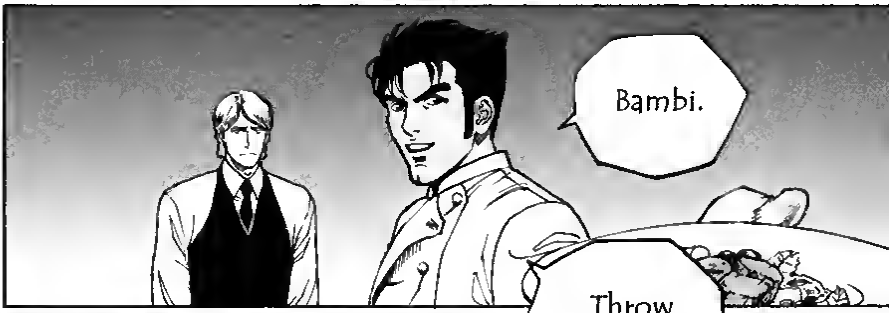
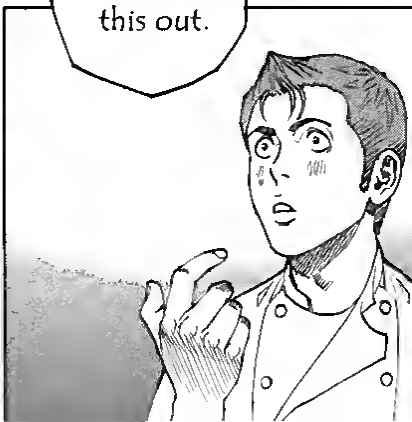


I made one extra for nothing!

I'm really sorry, Coyote!
What?! Only two?
You told me three, dammit!


Bambi.

コトッ


Throw this out.

Fillet of beef and porcini mushrooms roasted in grape leaves

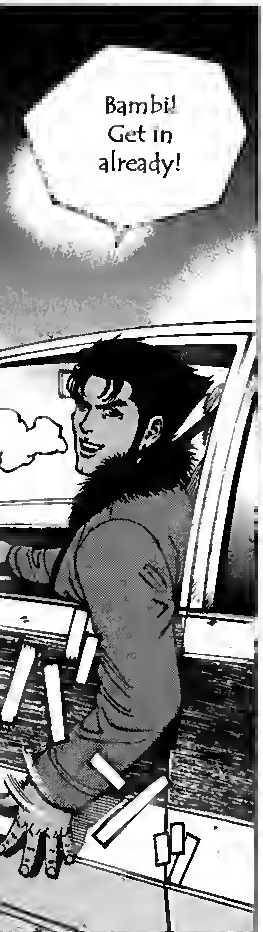
Filetto di manzo e funghi porcini alle foglie d'autunno

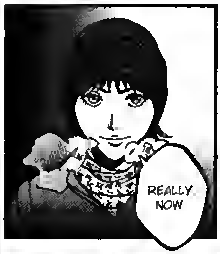
キコ
キコ
もっきゅ
もっきゅ
IT'S MELTIN' IN MY MOUTH!
もっきゅ
もっきゅ
プス
プス
プチ
プチ
Well, Bambi?
Delicious!!
ス…ッ
ど…ら…

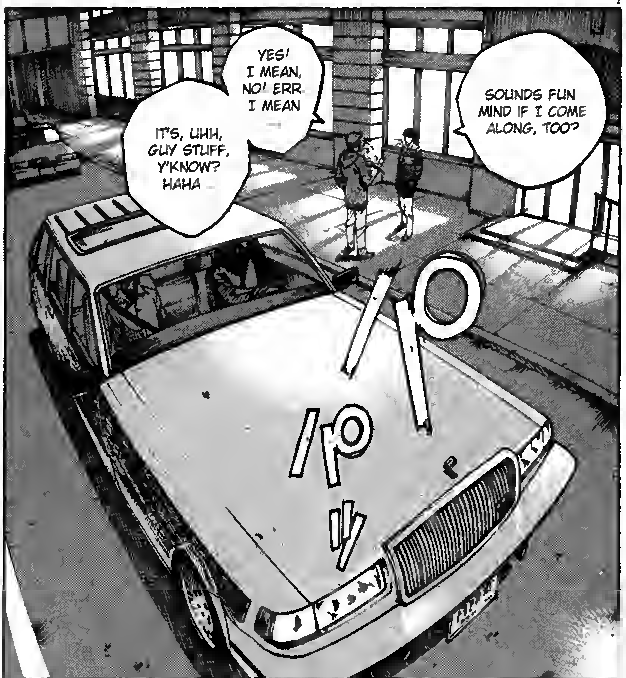
Satisfying?
What?
Why don't you come along with me tonight after work
I'll show you how fun catering can be.

Chapter 125: Carne Tutta Nervi (c)

(Nerve-filled Meat)







Chapter 125
Nerve-filled Meat
Carne Tuttа Nervi (1)

YOU'RE GOIN' TOO, SHINJI-SHAN?
I DON'T DRAGGED ALONG 'CAUSE YOU CAN'T SPEAK ENGLISH!

3
2
I WONDER WHAT HE'S THINKING. GOING AROUND WITH FISHY PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

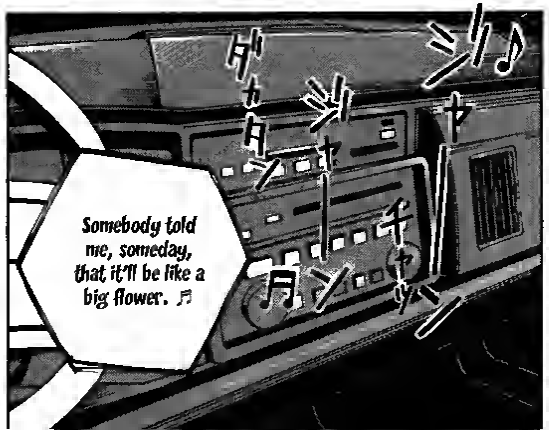
GOTCHA ...
THE MOMENT THINGS START GOIN' SOUTH, I'M GONE!
COULD YOU ASK COYOTE SHAN ABOUT THE GUY WE'RE GONNA COOK FOR TONIGHT?
He wants to know where we're going
WATCH YOUR OWN ASS, CAUSE I SURE AS HELL AIN'T WATCHIN' IT FOR YOU!
.....
.....

WHAT IF HE'S TAKIN' US STRAIGHT TO SOME MAFIA HIDE-OUT OR SOMETHING?
HE SAID HE'D SHOW ME HOW FUN CATERING IS, BUT...

Don't be. Relax.

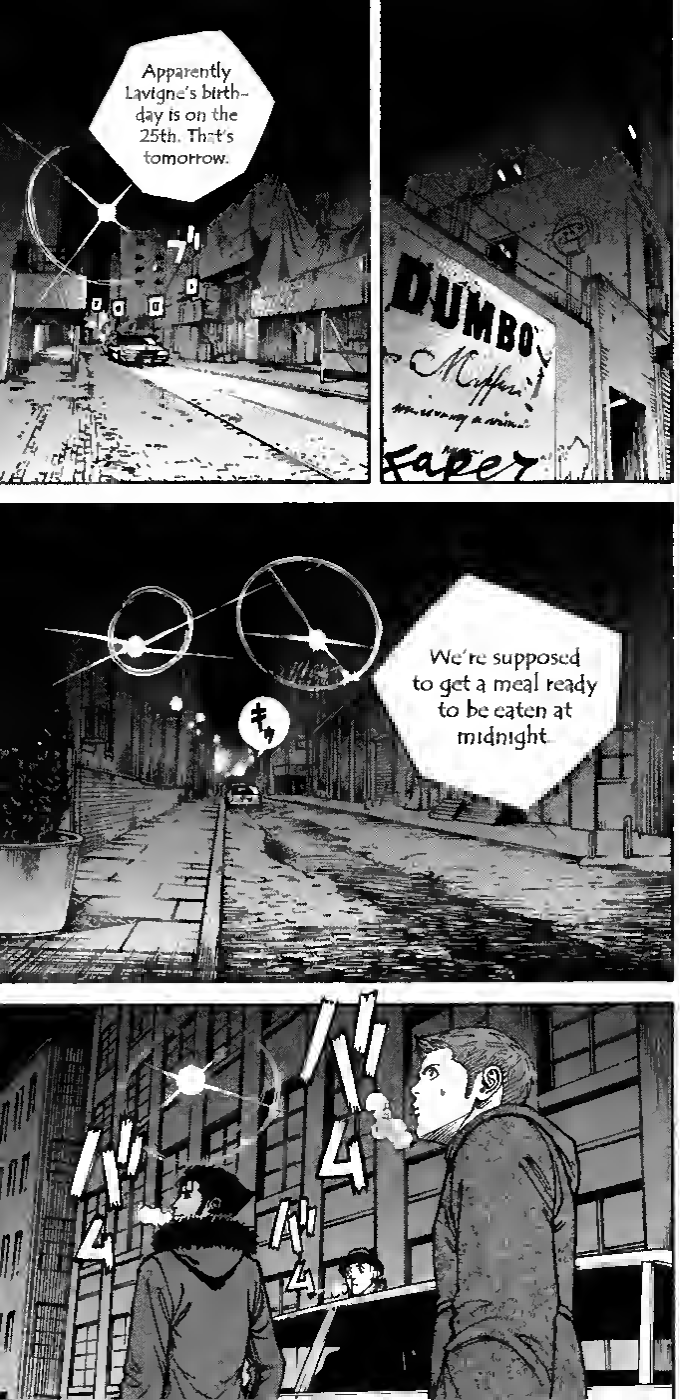
The two of you scared?

I GOTTA BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...


Somebody told me, someday, that it'll be like a big flower. ♬

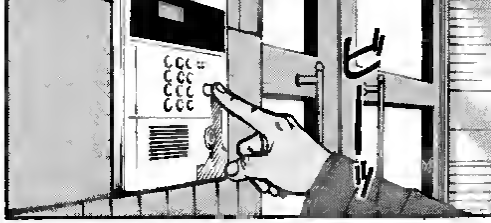
It's tiny now, but it grows more and more each day... Yeah, just like love... ♫
On rainy days, on windy days, on snowy days, I still believe in it.. ♫
HEY, I KNOW THIS SONG!
IT'S "MY FLOWER," BY THE BAND LOVE ACTUALLY, RIGHT?!
On rainy days, on windy days, on snowy days...
6
IT'S THE ONLY ENGLISH SONG I EVER MEMORIZED BY HEART.
You know it?
ONE LOVE
IT WAS A BIG HIT BACK IN JAPAN.

MY OLD GIRL-FRIEND REALLY LOVED THE LEAD VOCAL, JOSHUA LAVIGNE...
MAN, THIS REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T HEARD MUCH ABOUT 'EM LATELY... I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE DOING NOW?
I'll see that beautiful flower with my own eyes some day... ♬
Ask him yourself.
I might be nothing special, but still I yearn to see it... I'll wish for that flower every day.
Our client for tonight is Love Actually's lead vocalist ...
LOVE ACTUALLY!

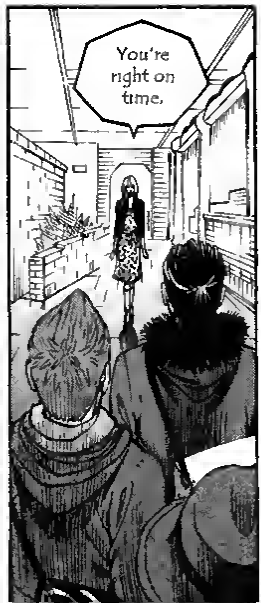

Apparently Lavigne's birthday is on the 25th. That's tomorrow.
DUMBO
Muffins
Paper
We're supposed to get a meal ready to be eaten at midnight.

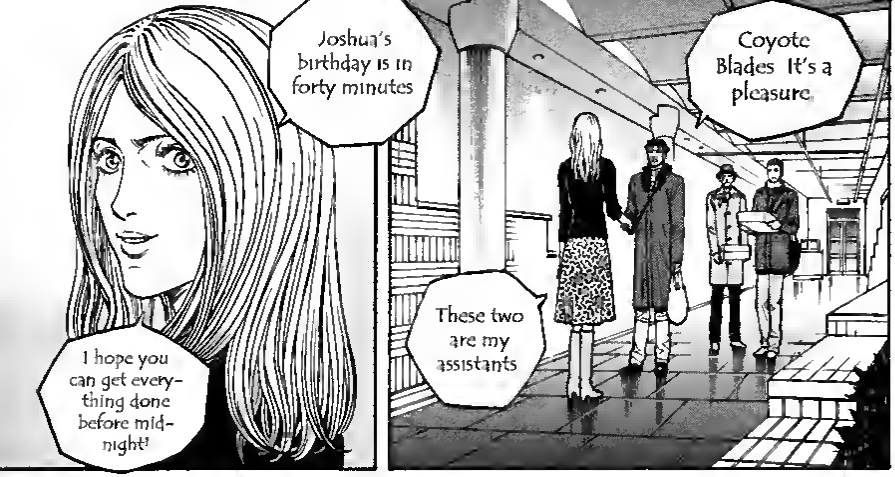
♬ That's right, just like love...
...Joshua Lavigne.

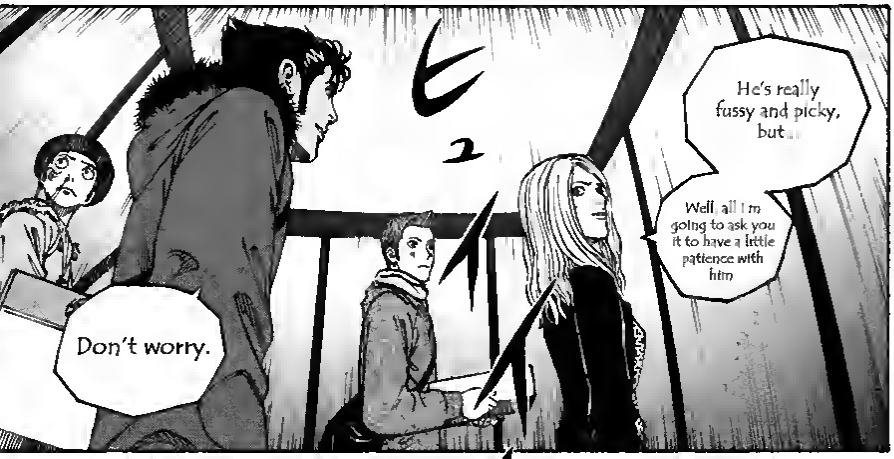
Hi. I'm Samantha Lavigne. I'm Joshua's big sister.
Nice to meet you.

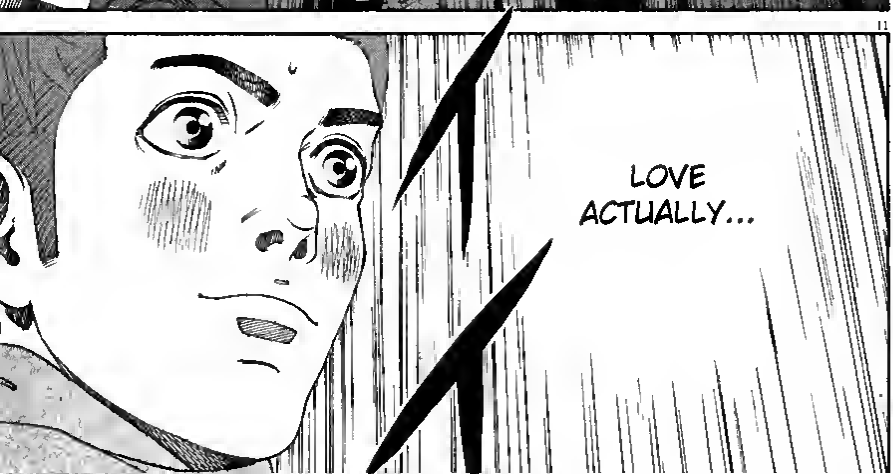


Evening, ma'am. I'm Coyote Blades.
Who is it?
50
Oh, of course! Come right in.


You're right on time.


Joshua's birthday is in forty minutes
I hope you can get everything done before midnight!
Coyote Blades It's a pleasure.
These two are my assistants


He's really fussy and picky, but...
Well, all I'm going to ask you it to have a little patience with him
Don't worry.


LOVE ACTUALLY...

BRINGS BACK MEMORIES...
MAN, I USED TO LISTEN TO THIS ALL THE TIME BACK WHEN I'D JUST STARTED DATING ERI...

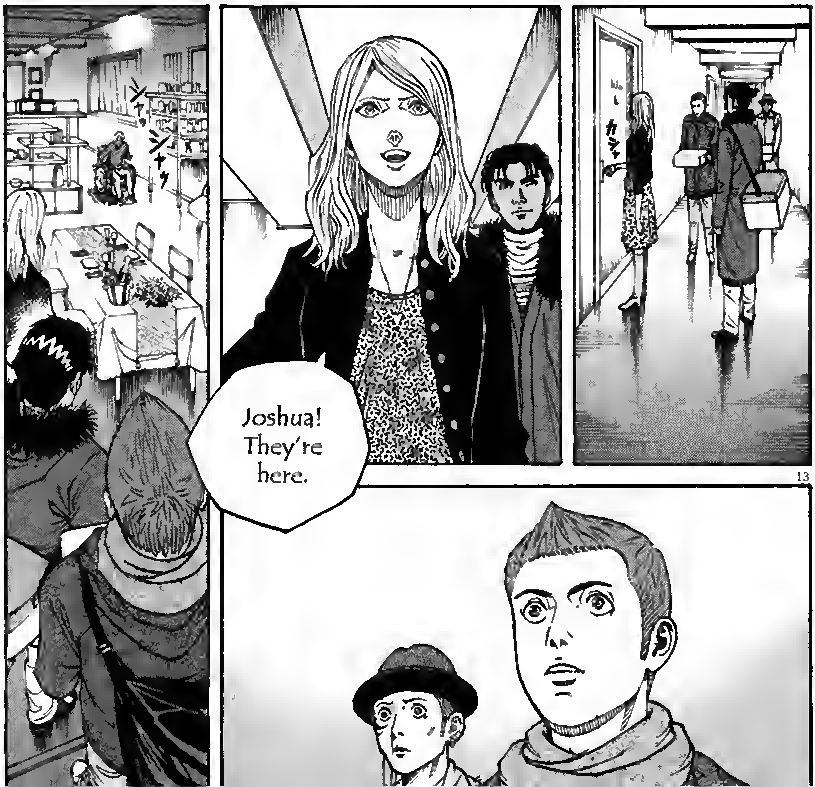
I MEAN, HE SANG SOMETHING SO BEAUTIFUL ...

I WONDER WHAT ERI'LL SAY?
Gonna tell her all about it!

I WONDER WHAT SORTA PERSON HE'LL BE.

AND NOW I'M HERE TO COOK A MEAL FOR THEIR LEAD VOCALIST, JOSHUA LAVIGNE ...
THERE REALLY ARE A LOT OF FAMOUS PEOPLE LIVIN' IN NEW YORK!

SO HE'S GOTTA BE REALLY KIND AN' FRIENDLY, RIGHT?


Joshua! They're here.
カラン

キュッ

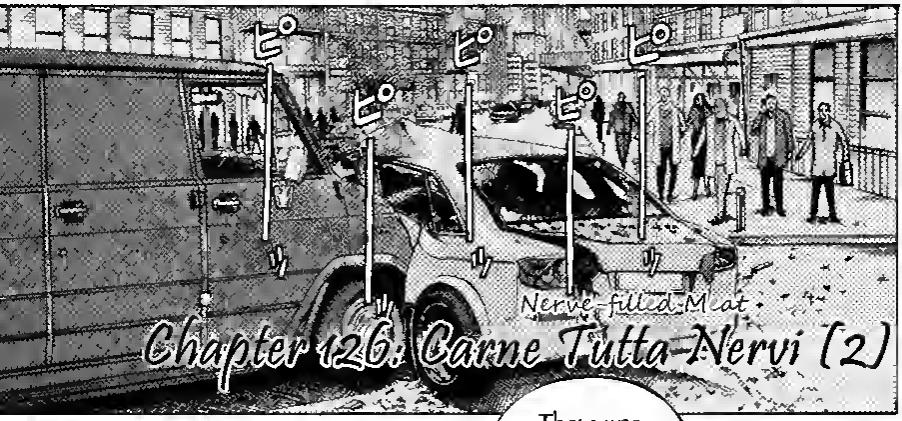
So you're the cooks for today, huh.

So. Where're you from?
I'm from Mexico..
And you two?
We're Japanese..

THIS IS JOSHUA?!
You're a bunch of phonies!
HE'S NOTHING LIKE I IMAGINED!
What're you staring at, Japanese man?
You're telling me that a Mexican and his Japanese helpers can cook Italian food?
I thought today was supposed to be Italian.
Joshua! Stop it!
What, you don't agree, sis?
It's obvious that an Italian'd be better at cooking Italian food, right?

What, am I that funny?! Huh?!
I'M SO SORRY ABOUT THIS. PLEASE, DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU.
THE KITCHEN'S THIS WAY.

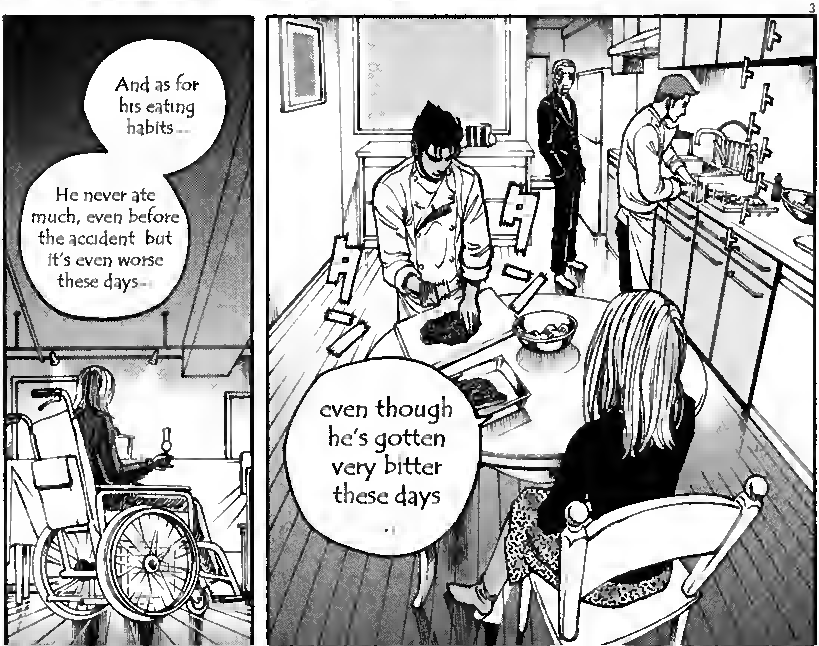
There was a car accident two years ago...
It changed everything for Joshua.


Nerve-filled Meat
Chapter 126: Carne Tutta-Nervi (2)

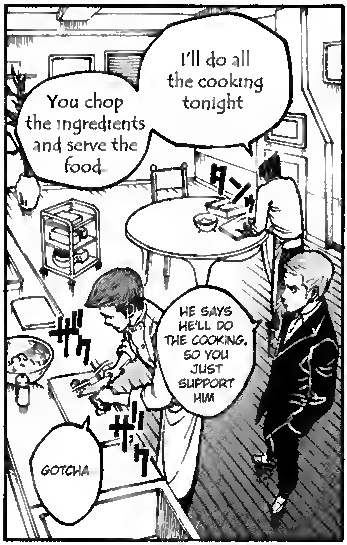
There was damage to his spine. He'll never walk again.
Having lost their lead vocalist, Love Actually disbanded at the height of their popularity —

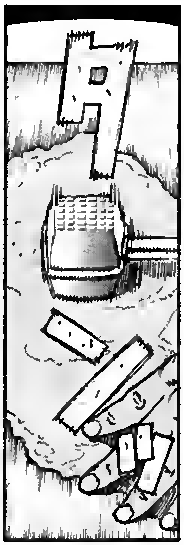
Joshua was forced to leave his career in music behind.
Just when he thought he had everything...
Chapter 126
Nerve-filled Meat
Carne Tutta Nervi (2)

He's actually a nice boy,

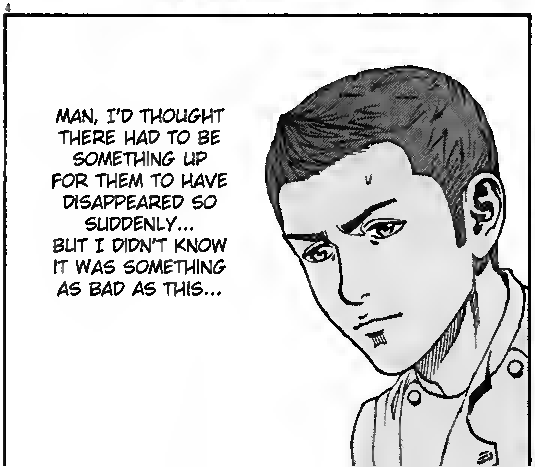

And as for his eating habits...
He never ate much, even before the accident but it's even worse these days...
even though he's gotten very bitter these days

Please!

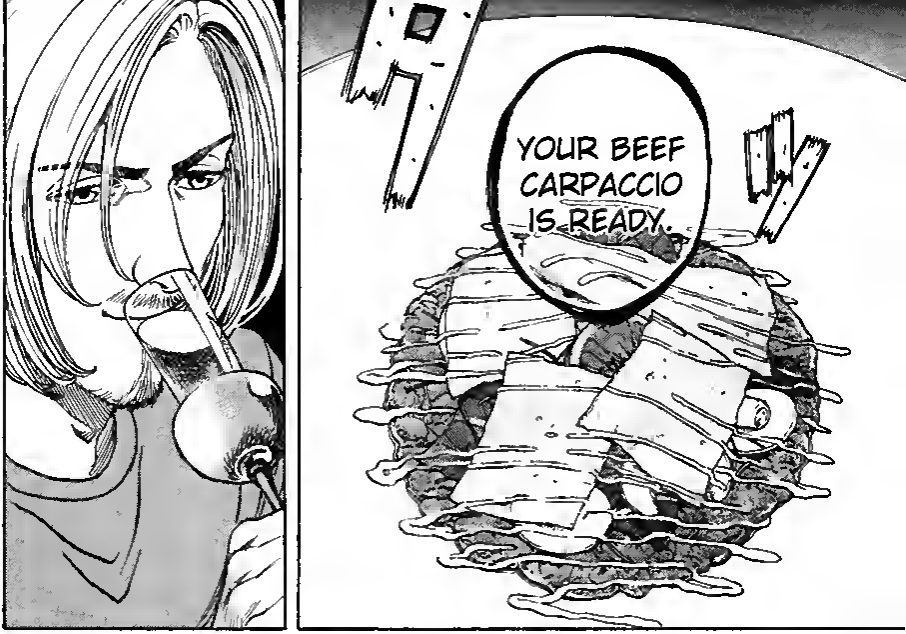

I'll do all the cooking tonight
You chop the ingredients and serve the food
HE SAYS HE'LL DO THE COOKING, SO YOU JUST SUPPORT HIM
GOTCHA

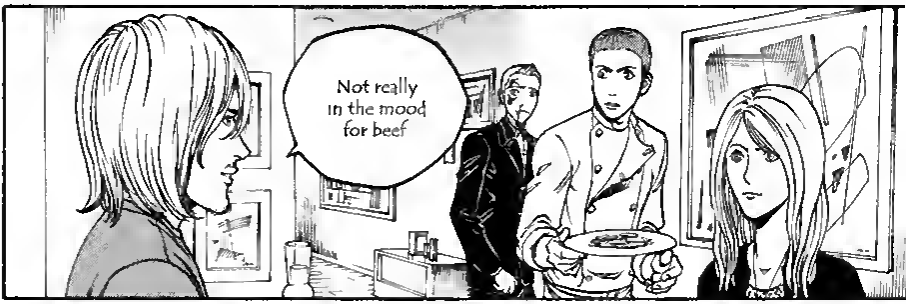


Just let him have something he'll enjoy... Today's his birthday, for God's sake...


MAN, I'D THOUGHT THERE HAD TO BE SOMETHING UP FOR THEM TO HAVE DISAPPEARED SO SUDDENLY... BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS SOMETHING AS BAD AS THIS...

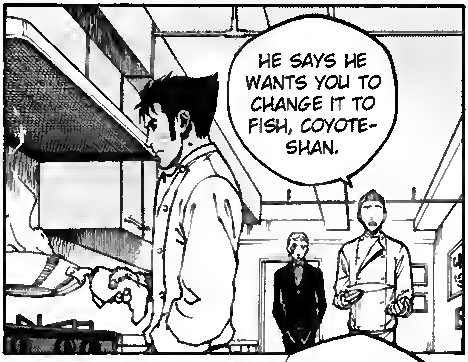
ポン
ﾌｧｵ
ﾌｧｵ
ﾌｧｵ...
I've got a feeling our guest for tonight is gonna be a headache.
Happy 25th birthday, Joshua.
It's just another year, sis. Nothing special.
You always get worked up over nothing.
EXCUSE ME!


YOUR BEEF CARPACCIO IS READY.

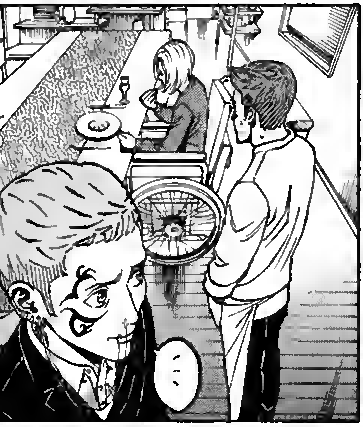

Not really in the mood for beef

Switch it to fish, will you?

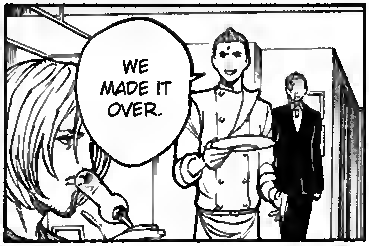
Okay.
Fish carpaccio
it is.


HE SAYS HE WANTS YOU TO CHANGE IT TO FISH, COYOTE-SHAN.

At it already, huh.

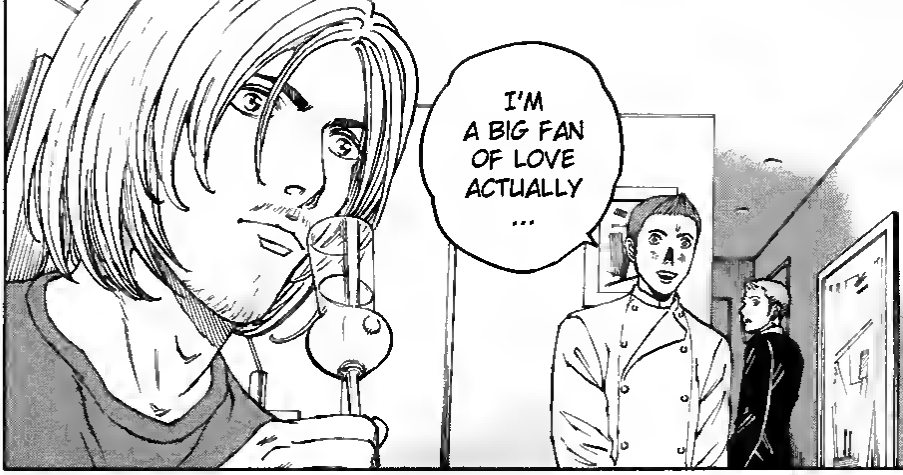


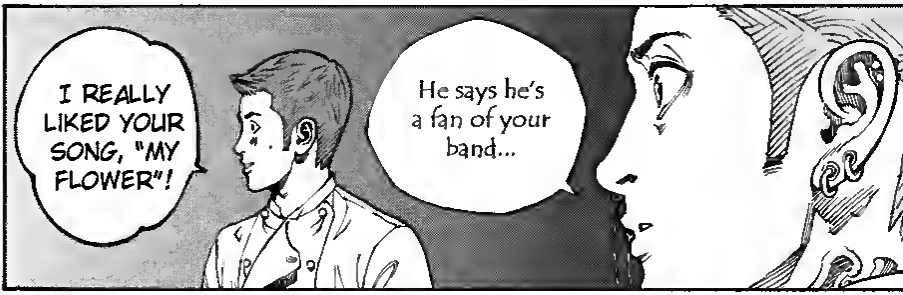
Hmph!

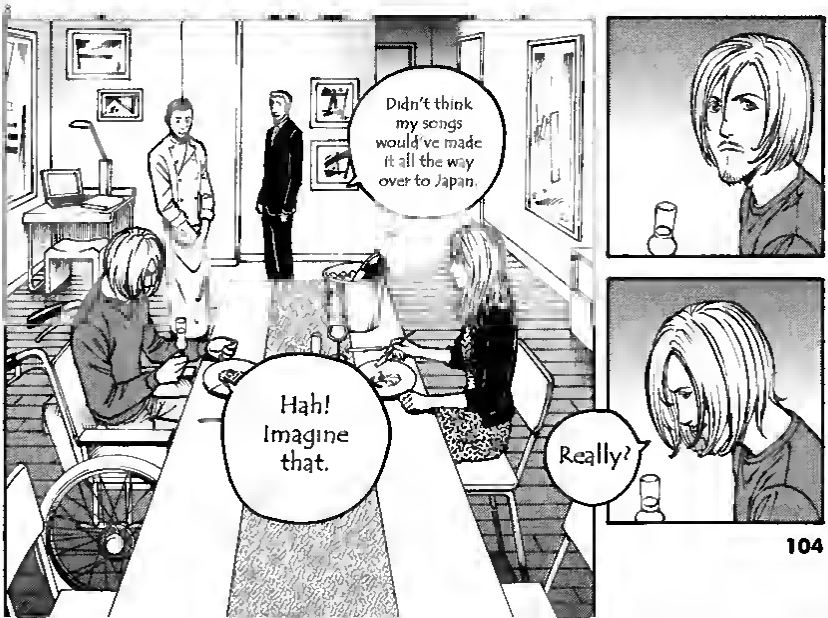

WE MADE IT OVER.

SEA BREAM CARPA-CCIO.

UMM...


I'M A BIG FAN OF LOVE ACTUALLY ...


I REALLY LIKED YOUR SONG, "MY FLOWER"!
He says he's a fan of your band...


Didn't think my songs would've made it all the way over to Japan.
Hah! Imagine that.
Really?

Hey.
Why do you figure that that song got so much PR, and made it all the way over to Japan, to your ears?
Wrong.
BECAUSE IT'S A GREAT SONG, OF COURSE...
JUST LISTENING TO THAT SONG ALWAYS HELPED ME RELAX, AND IT GAVE ME STRENGTH.
IT'S MY, UHH...
My favorite song!

It's because that's the kind of song that sells.

Well...
I made a ton of money off of it, so I guess that's a plus.
But it'd probably be good for you not to go around telling people you liked that song. They'll think you're a simpleton, or something.

I made that song because I was told to.

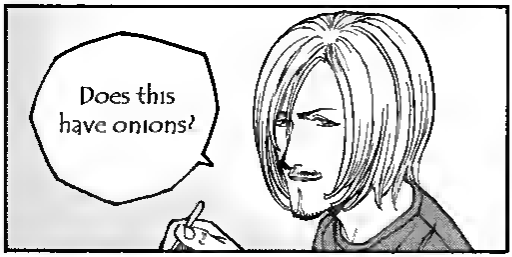
It's not the song I wanted to sing...

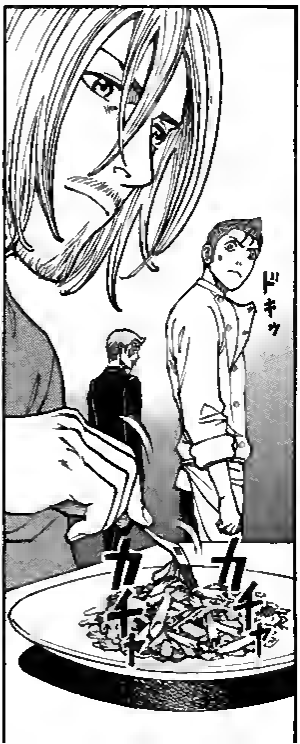
It was just bait I threw to the starving masses.

I KNOW HE'S GOTTA BE HAVIN' A HARD TIME 'CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT, BUT SERIOUSLY, WHAT THE HELL!
IT'S PRETTY FUCKED UP TO DISS YOUR OWN SONGS LIKE THAT!
WHAT THE HELL?!
UHH... OKAY?
ALL I SAID IS I THOUGHT THEY WERE GREAT...

EXCUSE ME!
Take it!

YOUR PASTA PRIMAVERA IS READY.

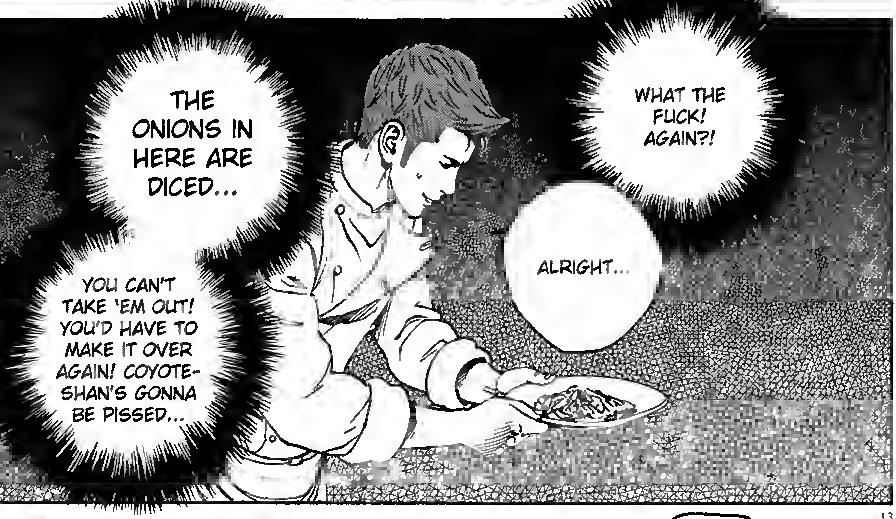

Does this have onions?

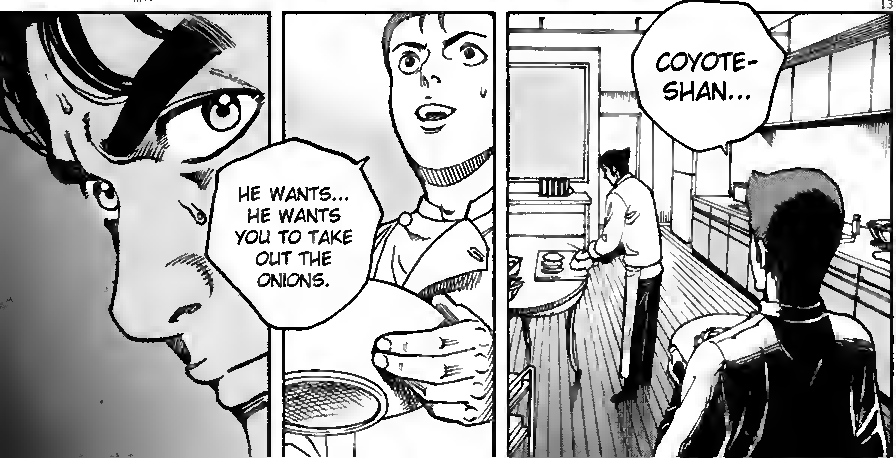

ドキッ
カチカチ

Not today, I don't.

UHH, YES ...
YOU DON'T LIKE THEM?

Take them out, will you?

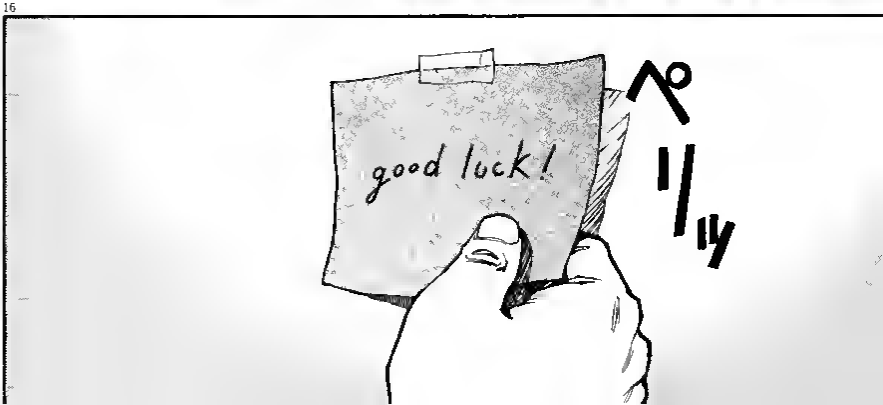

THE ONIONS IN HERE ARE DICED...
YOU CAN'T TAKE 'EM OUT! YOU'D HAVE TO MAKE IT OVER AGAIN! COYOTE-SHAN'S GONNA BE PISSED...
ALRIGHT...
WHAT THE FUCK! AGAIN?!


HE WANTS... HE WANTS YOU TO TAKE OUT THE ONIONS.
COYOTE-SHAN...

WHERE'RE YOU GOING?!
Gonna take a piss!
WAIT...

AWFUL LONG PISS, DON'CHA THINK.
YEAH...
トン トン トン トン トン トン
15
カチャ...
コン コン
COYOTE-SHAN?
COYOTE-SHAN?!
GO AND CHECK ON HIM.
BUT I CAN'T SPEAK ENGLISH...
COULD YOU GO WITH ME?
キィ...

HUH...?


good luck!
HEH

Good luck.
...HE'S SAYING GOOD LUCK WITH DEALING WITH JOSHUA?
WHAT'S THIS MEAN?
BUT... BUT THE MEAL'S NOT OVER YET.
THAT MOTHERFUCKER BOUNCED ON US!

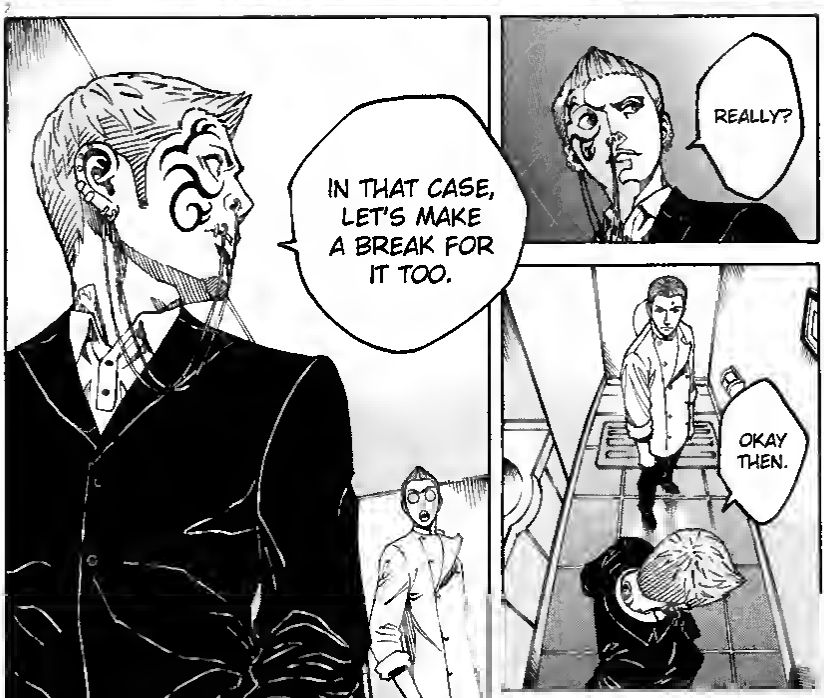
GUESS THAT JUST MEANS YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO IT, RIGHT?

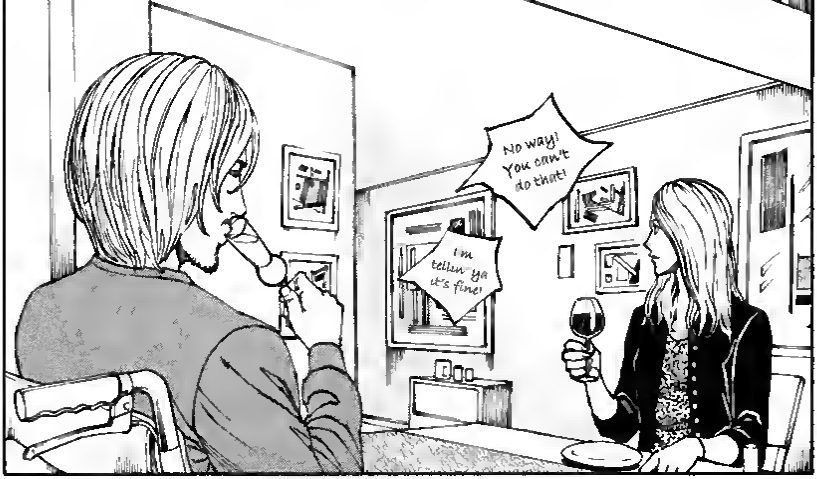
Chapter 127

Carne Tutta Nervi (3)

Nerve-filled Meat

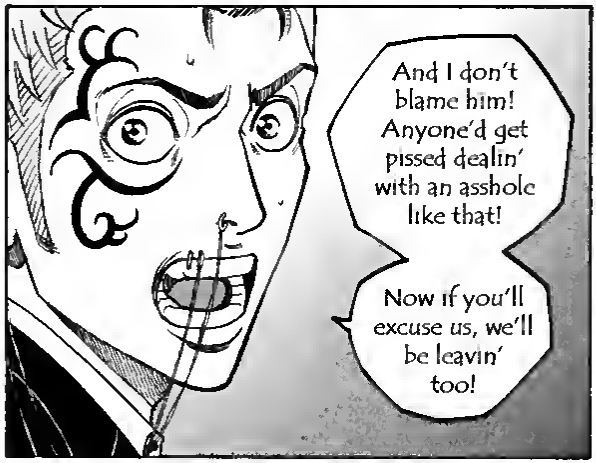
BUT...
BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH EXPERIENCE WITH MAKIN' ENTREES...

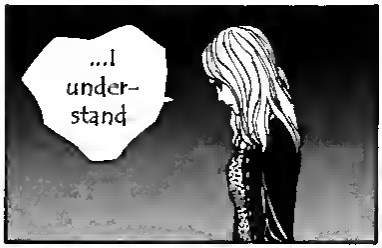

REALLY?
IN THAT CASE, LET'S MAKE A BREAK FOR IT TOO.
OKAY THEN.

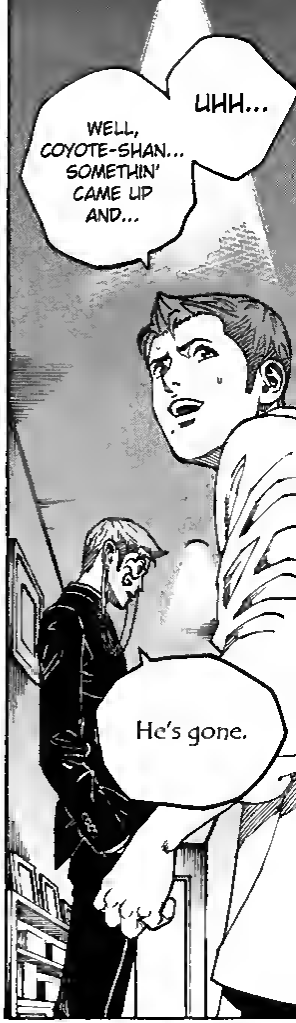

No way! You can't do that!
I'm tellin' ya it's fine!

COYOTE'S THE ONE WHO TOOK THE GODDAMN JOB!
WE GOTTA AT LEAST EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED!
WHY DO WE HAVETA EXPLAIN SHIT TO ANYONE?!
Is something wrong?
What's going on over there?

Excuse me?


And I don't blame him! Anyone'd get pissed dealin' with an asshole like that!
Now if you'll excuse us, we'll be leavin' too!


...I under-stand

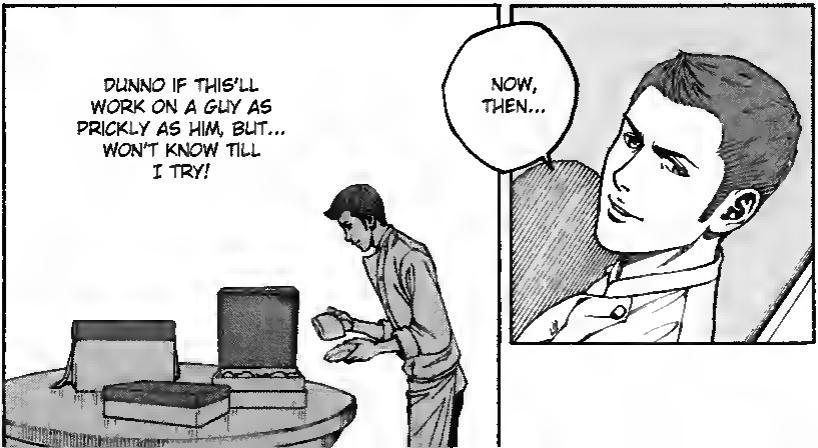

UHH...
WELL, COYOTE-SHAN... SOMETHIN' CAME UP AND...
He's gone.

Anyone would be, honestly
You're not the first people who've gotten fed up with Joshua

Just let him have something he'll enjoy... Today's his birthday, for God's sake...
LET'S GO, BAMBI.
UHH, ACTUALLY...
WOULD YOU MIND IF I DID THE COOKING?

WHAT DOES JOSHUA-SHAN EAT LATELY?
He just drinks a lot.
All he eats these days are apples.

Hmph!
Mhmm
GOT ANY ON HAND?
APPLES, HUH...
SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG.
PASTA PRIMAVERA WITH NO ONIONS.


DUNNO IF THIS'LL WORK ON A GUY AS PRICKLY AS HIM, BUT... WON'T KNOW TILL I TRY!
NOW, THEN...

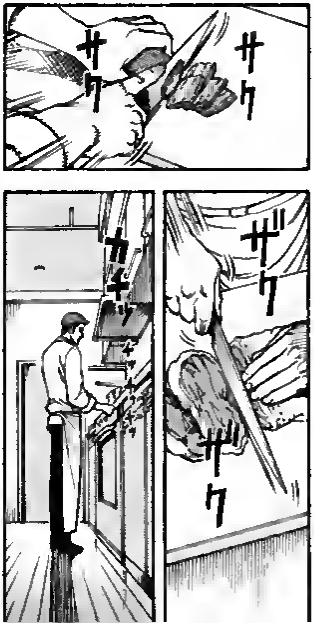
ALRIGHT!

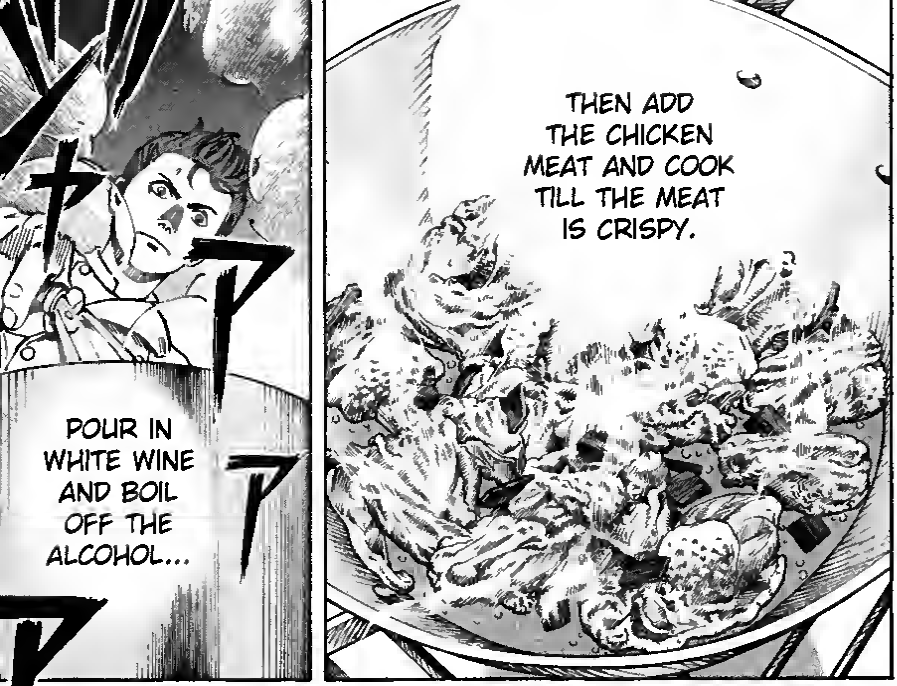
FROM WHAT HE SAID, HE DOESN'T LIKE STUFF THAT'S TOO HEAVY, LIKE BEEF...

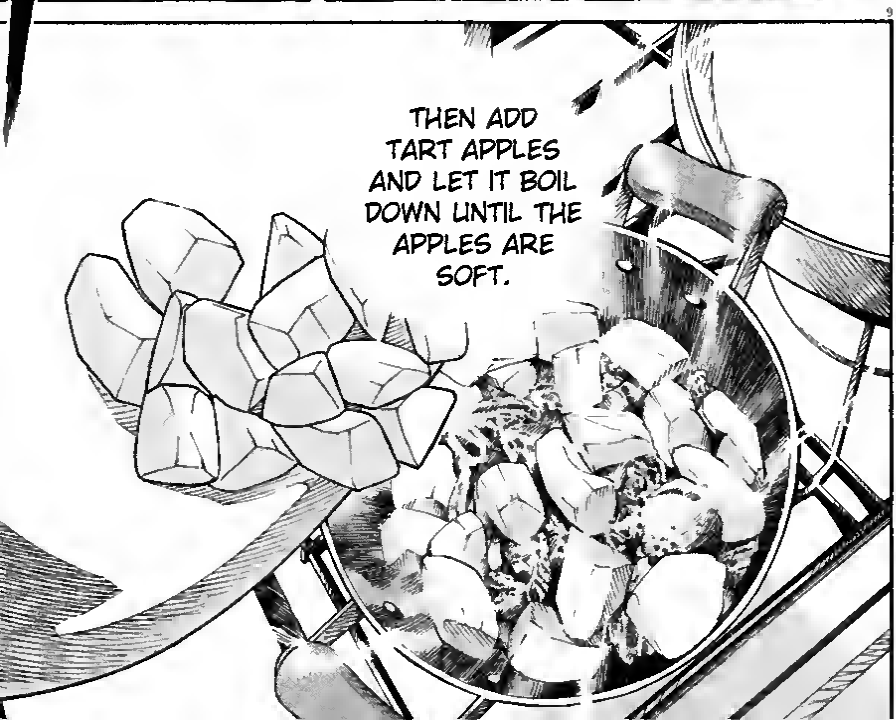
AND APPLES, SINCE HE LIKES THOSE.

SO I'LL TAKE SOME LEAN CHICKEN.

FRY SOME PANCETTA IN BUTTER AND THEN DRAIN OUT THE OIL,




POUR IN WHITE WINE AND BOIL OFF THE ALCOHOL...
THEN ADD THE CHICKEN MEAT AND COOK TILL THE MEAT IS CRISPY.

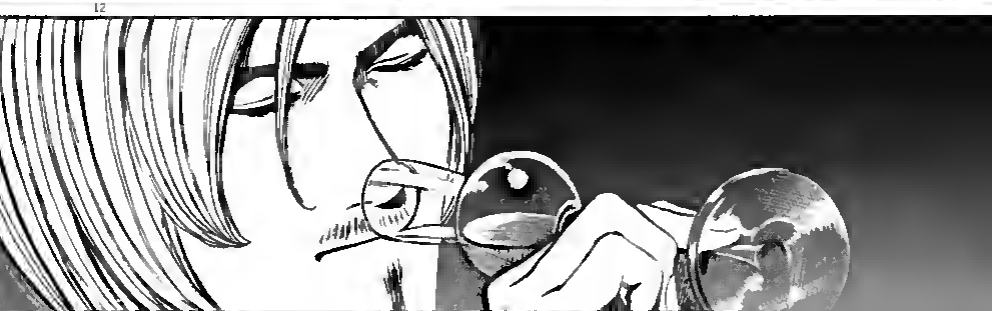

THEN ADD TART APPLES AND LET IT BOIL DOWN UNTIL THE APPLES ARE SOFT.

C'MON, BECOME DELICIOUS ...

HEH... COOKING FOR JUST ONE PERSON AIN'T SO BAD...

WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TAKE THAT AWAY?
Mmm.
EXCUSE ME.
THIS IS GONNA BE GREAT.
Got anything else coming?
... YES.

CHICKEN AND APPLES IN A WHITE WINE SAUCE!



Take it away.
It's pretty obvious you made this specially for me—
CAN'T YOU AT LEAST TRY ONE BITE?
WHA ...
REALLY ...?

But that pisses me off more than anything.
You probably heard from my sister that I like apples.
It's not like someone who likes shit like My Flower'd be able to cook anything worth eating, anyway.
Joshua! That's enough!
But I only eat them because they're easy to stomach, not because I particularly like them

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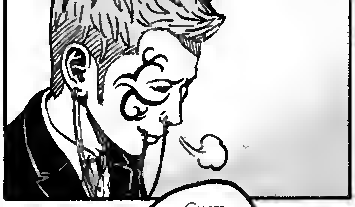
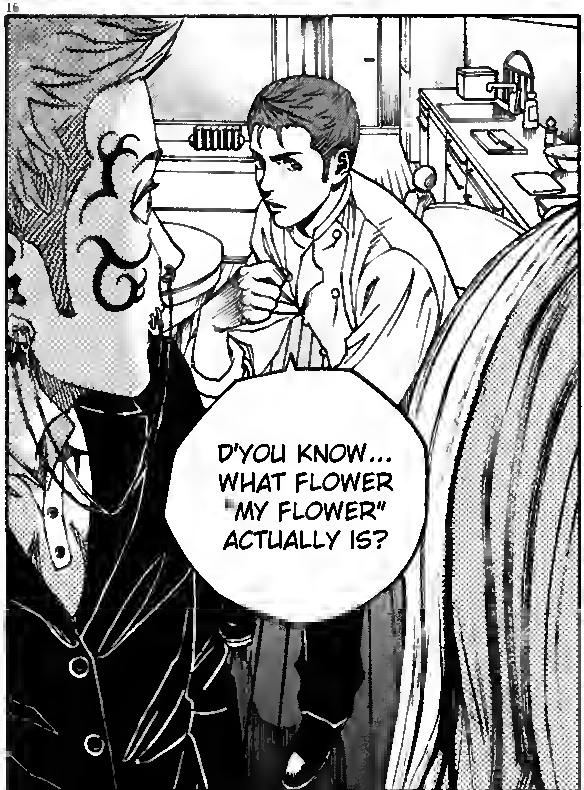
I'm sorry you had to go through that.

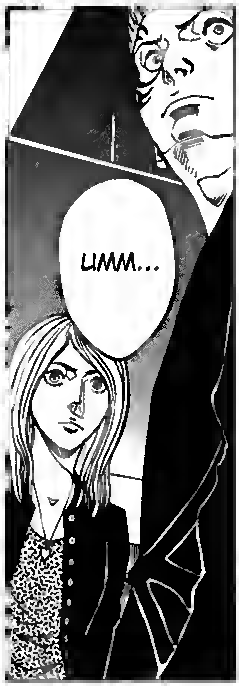


Guess you've got it pretty hard yourself, huh
I'll... call a cab for you two

I'm really sorry about this.
Thank you so much for cooking for us tonight.

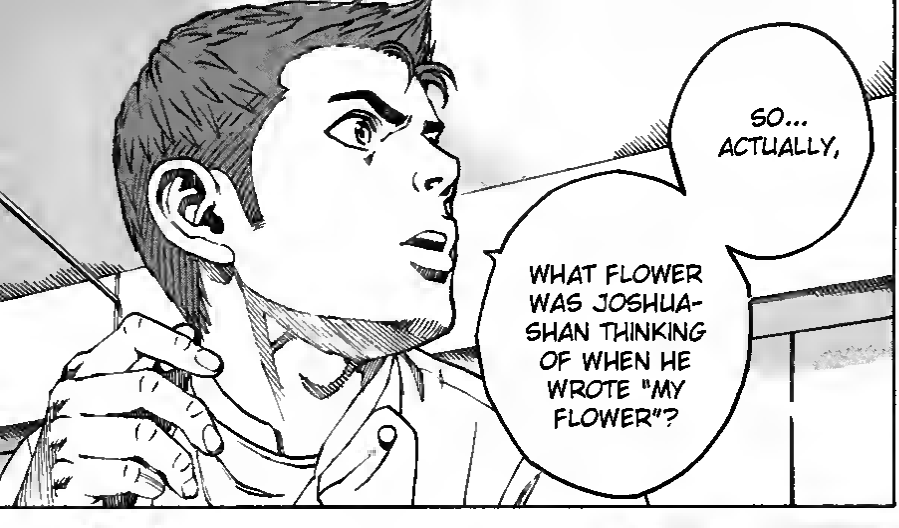
16

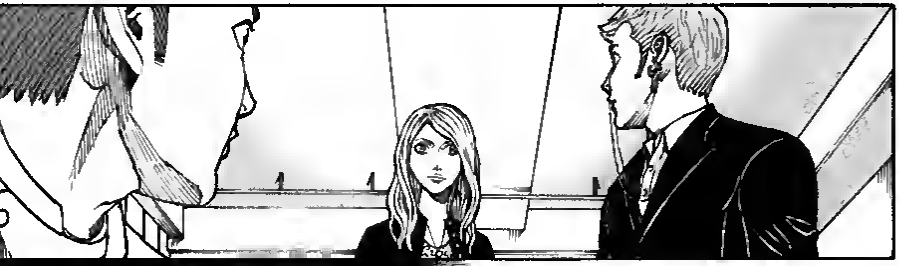

D'YOU KNOW... WHAT FLOWER "MY FLOWER" ACTUALLY IS?


UMM...

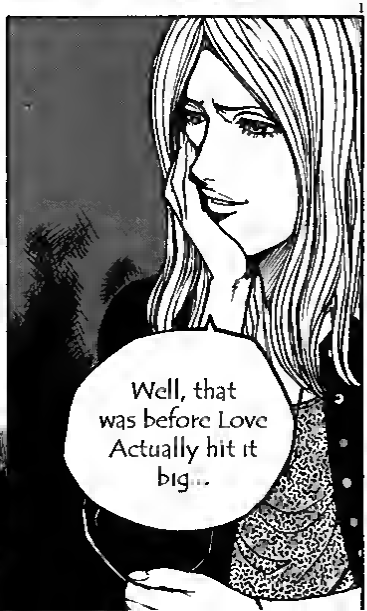
Make 'em leave already, sis.
I'm not even hungry.
I think he wants you to try just one more dish...
Wait just a little!
EXCUSE ME!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!


SO... ACTUALLY,
WHAT FLOWER WAS JOSHUA-SHAN THINKING OF WHEN HE WROTE "MY FLOWER"?

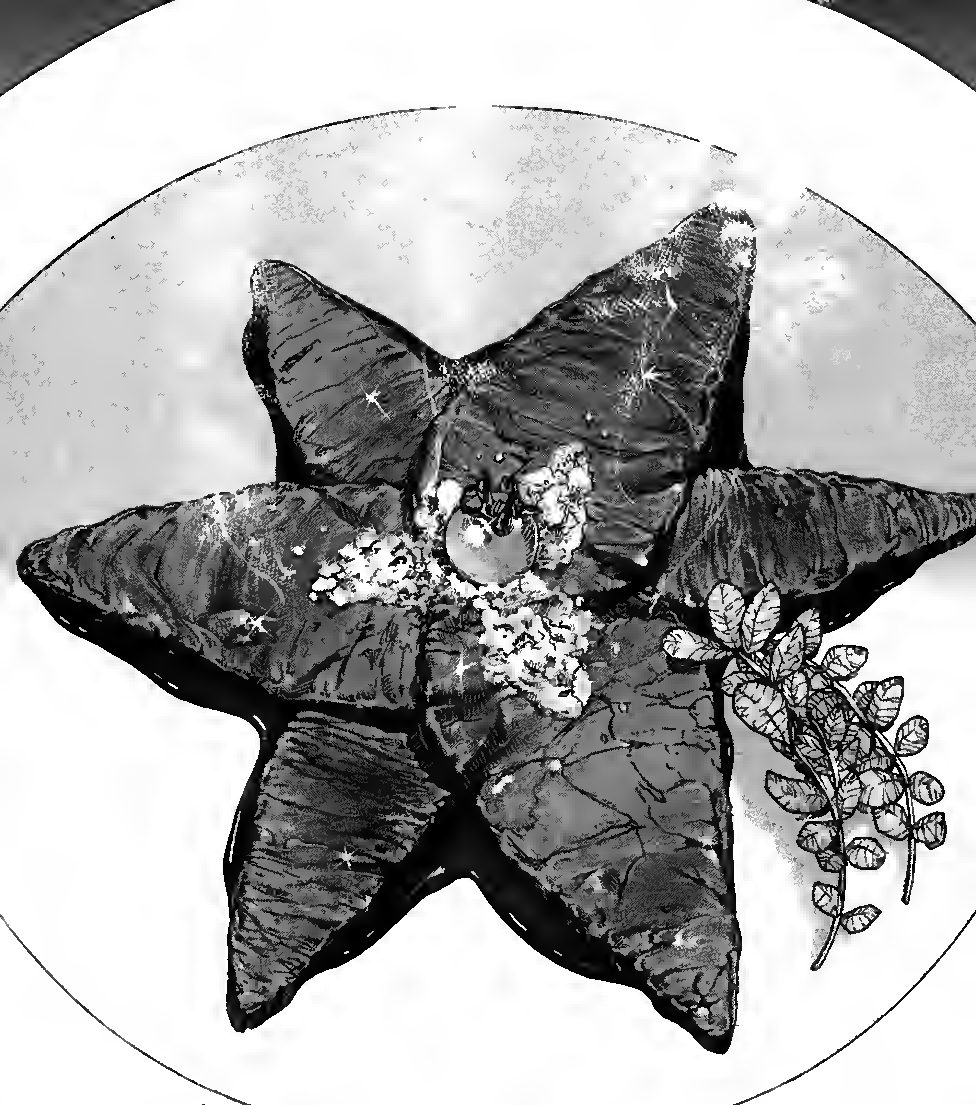


Joshua was living with his girlfriend at the time.
Chapter 128
Carne Tutta Nervi (4)

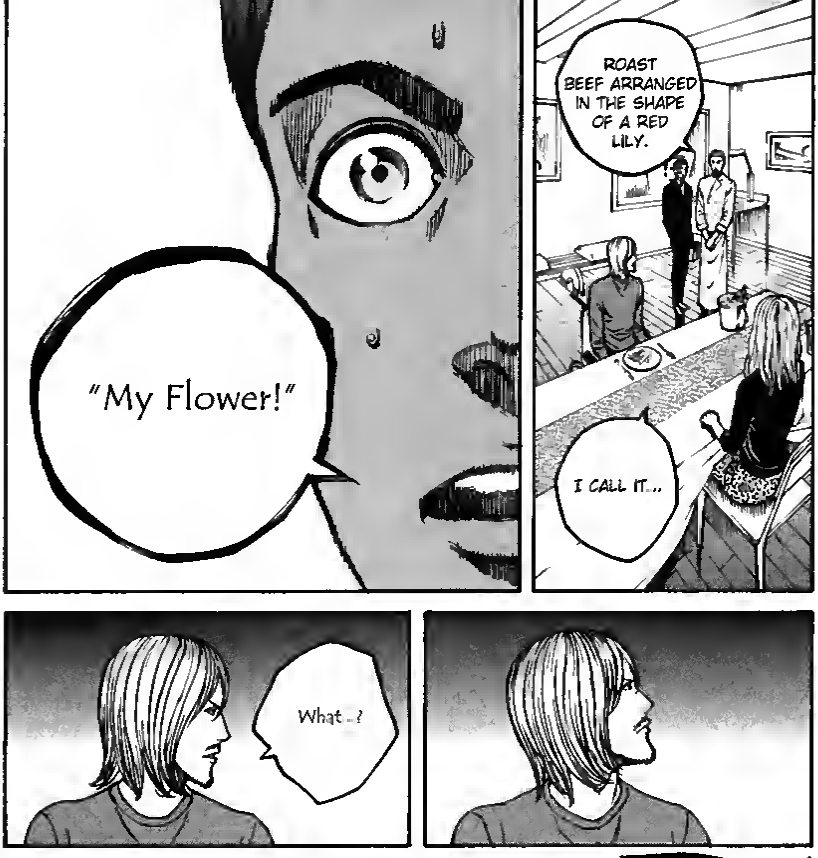

Well, that was before Love Actually hit it big...

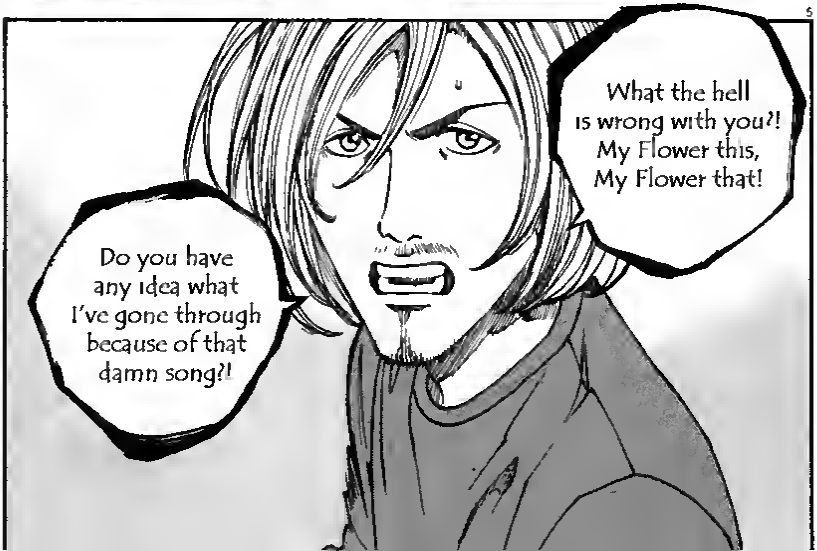
Could you quiet down a little?
I'm trying to write a song here!
...Sorry
She loved flowers. The place was always full of them.
Look, Joshua!
Aren't these so pretty?
C'mon, you can do it!
Yeah, thanks
The inspiration for "My Flower" came from...

...Her favorite, the red lily.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!



Chapter 128
Nerve-filled Meat
Carne Tutta Nervi (4)


"My Flower!"
ROAST BEEF ARRANGED IN THE SHAPE OF A RED LILY.
I CALL IT...
What...?

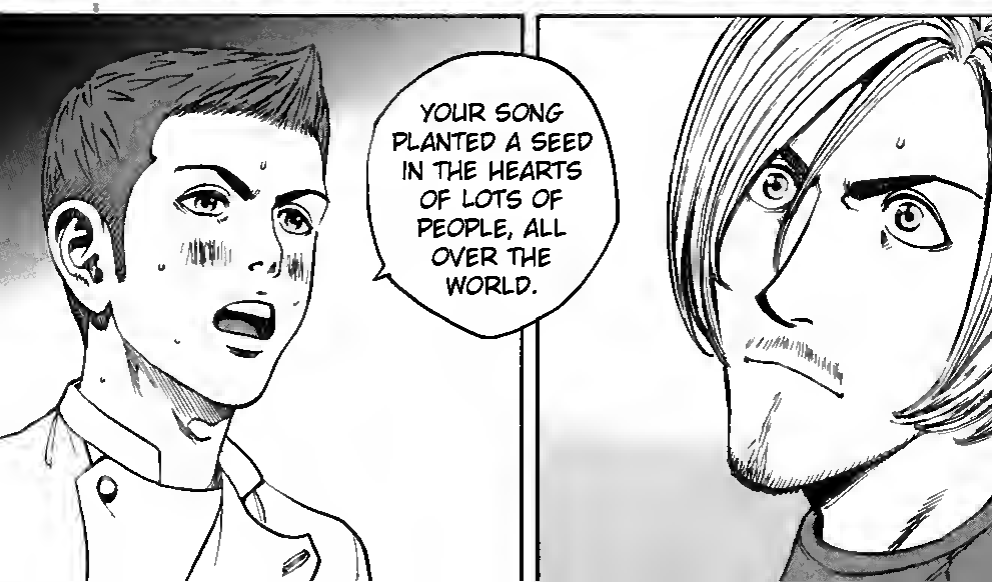

What the hell is wrong with you?! My Flower this, My Flower that!
Do you have any idea what I've gone through because of that damn song?!

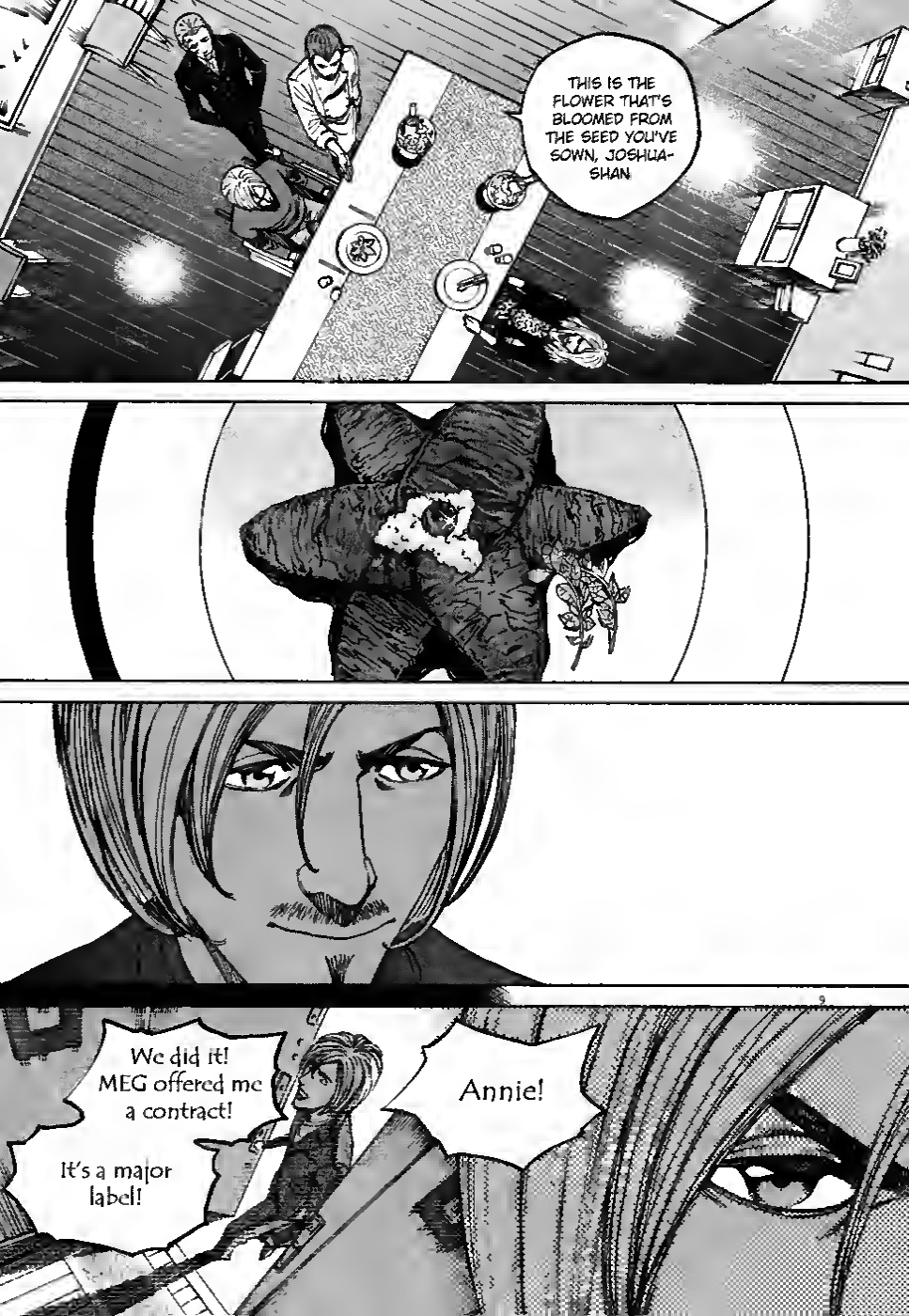
Stop bringing up that stupid song!
The song was such a hit that my label forced me to keep pushing out medium tempo ballads.
Do you know how hard it is, making the same song over and over?!
I actually felt relieved when I got in that accident and had to quit
It was torture...

IT AIN'T STUPID!
Let it bloom into a flower someday, and I'll harvest the seed of that. ♪
I will go on, growing this seed you've given me. ♪
YOU SANG THIS PART IN "MY FLOWER," RIGHT?

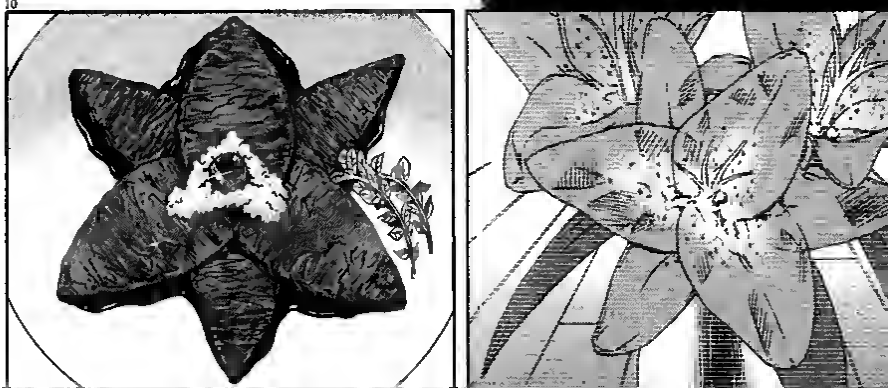
On rainy days,
on windy days,
on sunny days,
I'll still keep on dreaming
that dream...

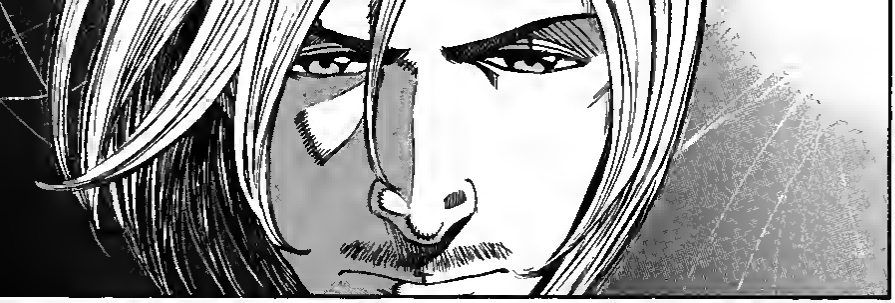
Seed after seed,
'till the Earth is filled
with flowers.



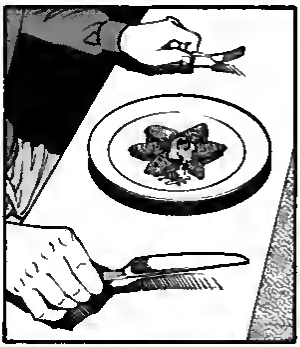

THIS IS THE FLOWER THAT'S BLOOMED FROM THE SEED YOU'VE SOWN, JOSHUA-SHAN.
We did it! MEG offered me a contract!
It's a major label!
Annie!

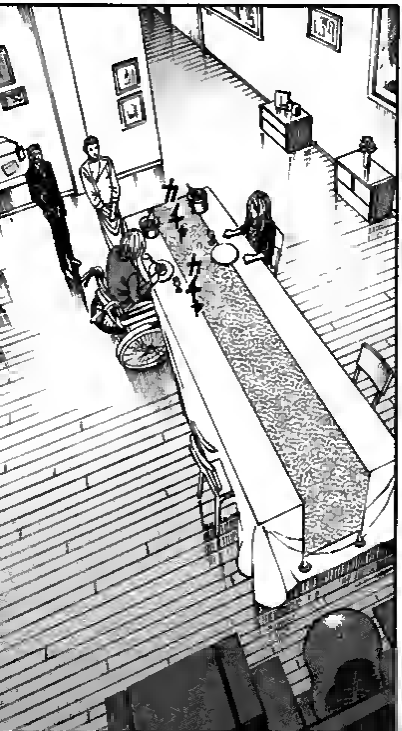
Annie!
It's all thanks to you, Annie!
Let's celebrate!
Make a big flower someday, annie!





I'm not much for beef, but





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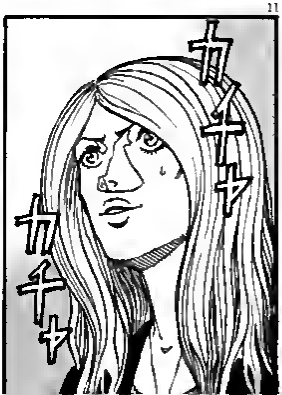
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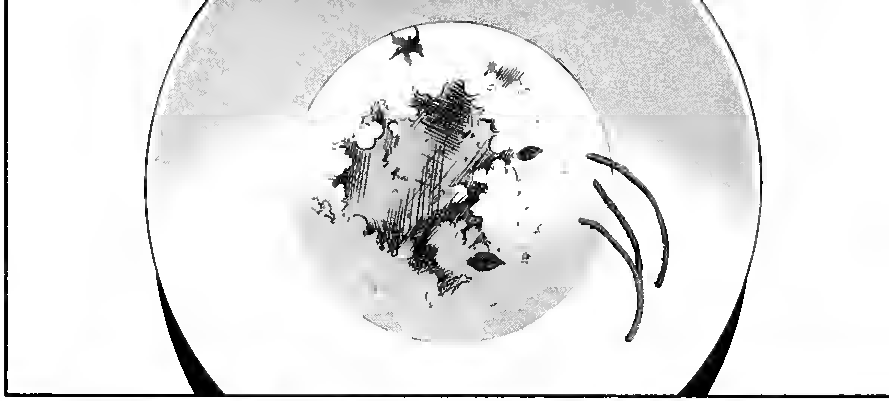
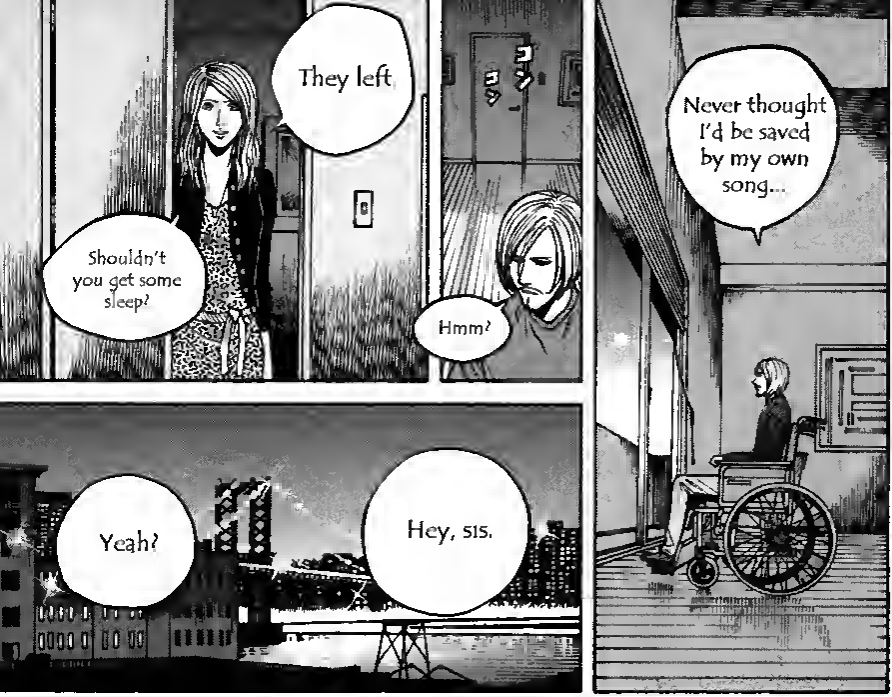
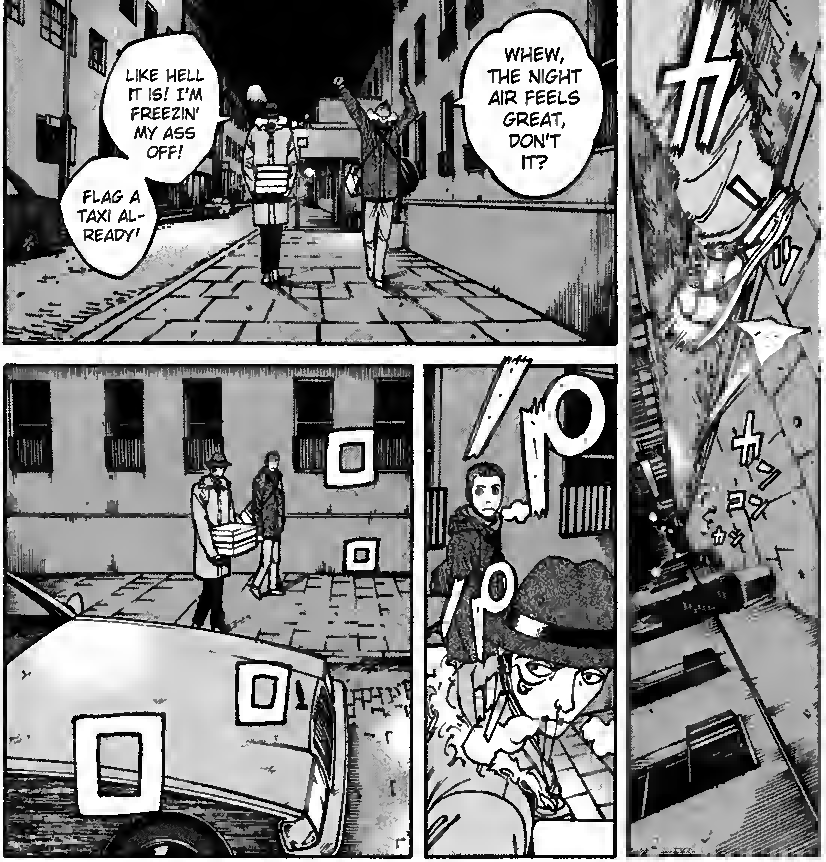



They left
Shouldn't you get some sleep?
コンコン
Hmm?
Never thought I'd be saved by my own song...
Yeah?
Hey, sis.

I don't suppose you remember... where I left my guitar?


WHEW, THE NIGHT AIR FEELS GREAT, DON'T IT?
LIKE HELL IT IS! I'M FREEZIN' MY ASS OFF!
FLAG A TAXI AL-READY!
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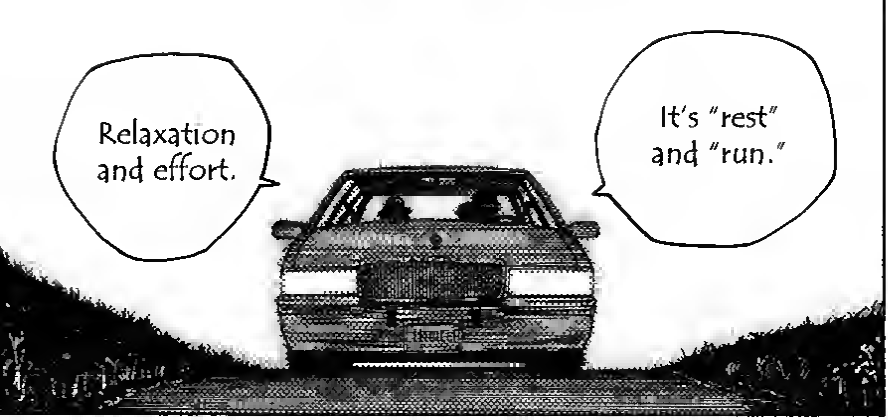
Looks like things turned out okay, huh?
Yo!
ズィーム

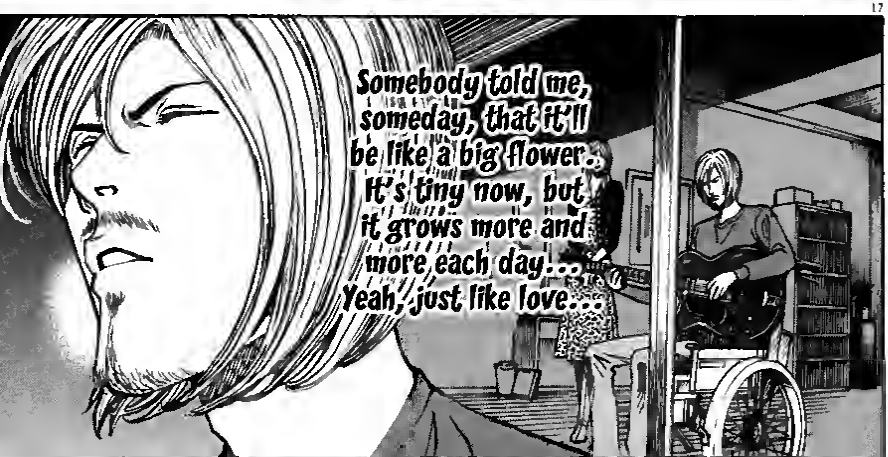
What're you talking about? I told you, didn't I?
That I'd show you the fun of catering.
COYOTE-SHAN?!
WHY'D YOU RUN AWAY?!
Ah!
Coyote, you ass-hole!
INCICE!
C'mon, get in.
INCICE!

YER TEMPER. BACK WHEN JOSHUA WOULDN'T EVEN TRY A DAMN BITE.
IF IT WERE ME I'D PROBABLY'VE PUNCHED THE BASTARD.
MAN, YOU HELD IT IN LIKE A CHAMP.
WHAT?

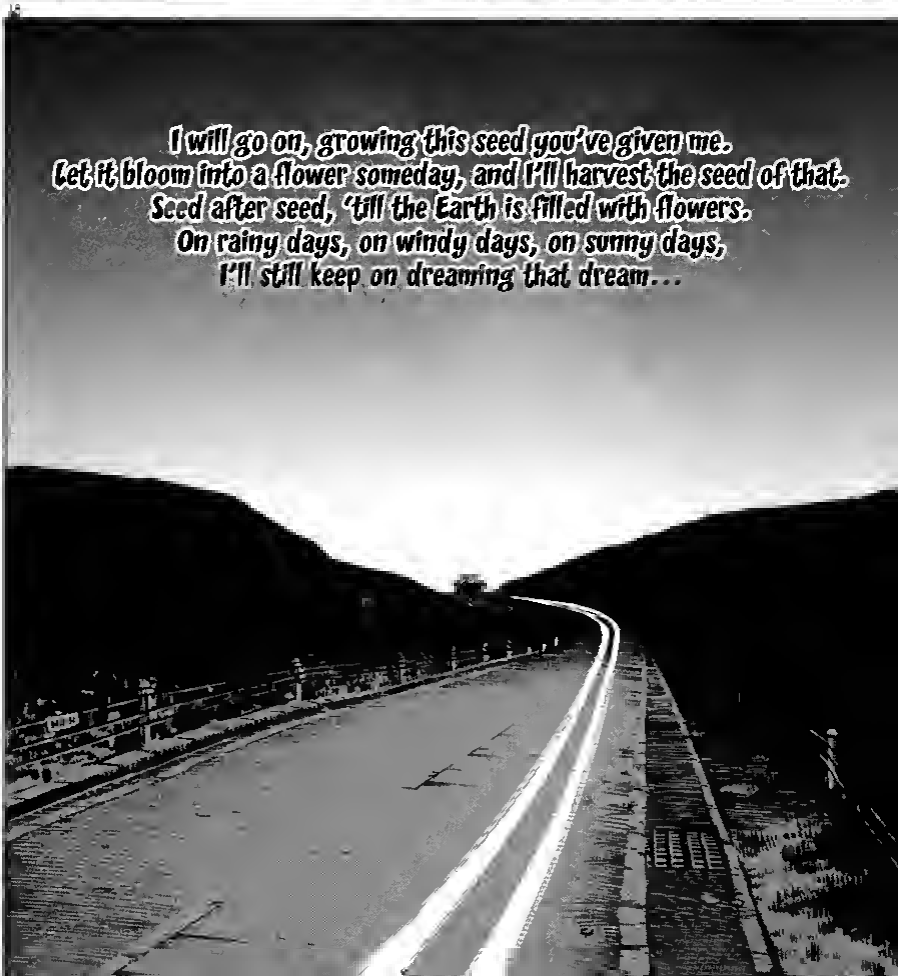
Hey, Bambi. You know what the meaning I get from the word "restaurant" is?
HUH?
WELL... HE WAS STILL A GUEST, YA KNOW?
I COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE GETTING MAD AT HIM.
WHEN DID I START THINKIN' LIKE THAT?
I REMEMBER GETTING REALLY MAD AT THAT KINDA THING BEFORE.


Relaxation and effort.
It's "rest" and "run."

People who work at restaurants *run* to give others a place where they can *rest*.


Somebody told me, someday, that it'll be like a big flower. It's tiny now, but it grows more and more each day... Yeah, just like love...

Tonight just proves that the restaurant life is a perfect fit for you!


I will go on, growing this seed you've given me.
Let it bloom into a flower someday, and I'll harvest the seed of that.
Seed after seed, 'till the Earth is filled with flowers.
On rainy days, on windy days, on sunny days,
I'll still keep on dreaming that dream...

ROPPONGI, TOKYO

Chapter 129: Erba Bud

TRATTORIA BACCANALE, DINNERTIME

WHERE'S THE mussels COZZE?!
OI, HIROSE! GET THE PLATES READY!
...BENE!
YOU'RE FRIGGIN' USE-LESS!
YOU MIGHTA GRADUATED TOP OF YOUR CLASS BACK IN COOKIN' SCHOOL,
BUT THAT DON'T MEAN SHIT OUT HERE IN THE REAL WORLD!

YEAH?
MASASHI!

Chapter 129: Erba

Bird

LOOKS LIKE BOTH BAMBI AND ASUKA ARE DOING JUST FINE!
FIRST, LET'S OPEN UP THE ATTACHED FILE...
Baccanale
LET'S SEE... "NEW YORK IS A TOTALLY NEW WORLD. ALL THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM BACK HOME."
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"WE'RE SLOWLY GETTING USED TO AMERICAN STYLE ITALIAN COOKING."
"I WANT TO HURRY BACK, AND SHOW EVERYONE JUST HOW GOOD I'VE GOTTEN WHEN LEGARE OPENS."

SOUNDS LIKE BAN-SAN IS GIVING IT HIS BEST IN NEW YORK, TOO!

Y-YEAH, I BET... HAHA...
MAYBE HE'LL BE AN INCREDIBLE CHEF WHEN HE GETS BACK!

D'YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME TO TALK?
IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU I'D LIKE TO GET SOME ADVICE...

HAYAMA-SAN!

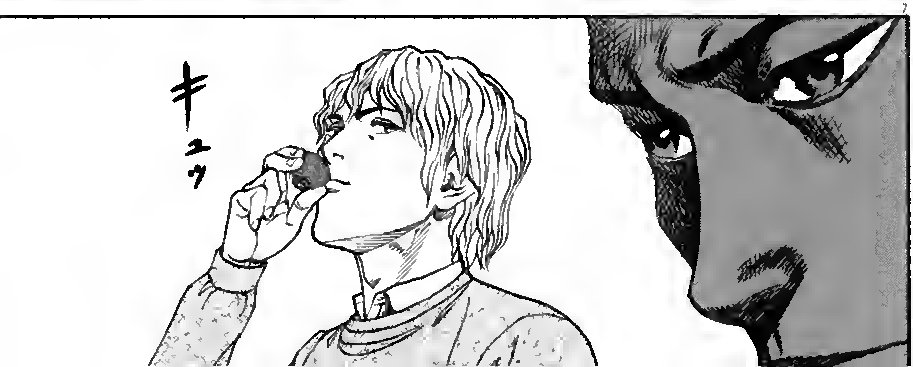
GOOD NIGHT!
NIGHT!

I MEAN, SURE, I'M THE HEAD OF THE PASTA SECTION RIGHT NOW...
BUT I JUST DO WHAT THE CHEF TELLS ME EVERY DAY, AND I KEEP WONDERING, IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR ME TO DO THIS?
I FEEL LIKE BAMBI'S GETTIN' FARTHER AND FATHER AHEAD OF ME, EVEN GOING TO TRAIN IN NEW YORK AND ALL...

IT'S NOT A PROBLEM! JUST A FEELING!
SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM HERE?

'COURSE I DON'T!
SUBPRIME LENDING...? DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT IS?
THINK ABOUT IT! THERE'S A LOT OF STUFF GOIN' DOWN THESE DAYS!
LIKE THE PRICE OF OIL GOING UP, AND SUB-PRIMES, AND STUFF!

I JUST... I JUST WONDER. AM I REALLY CUT OUT TO DO THIS?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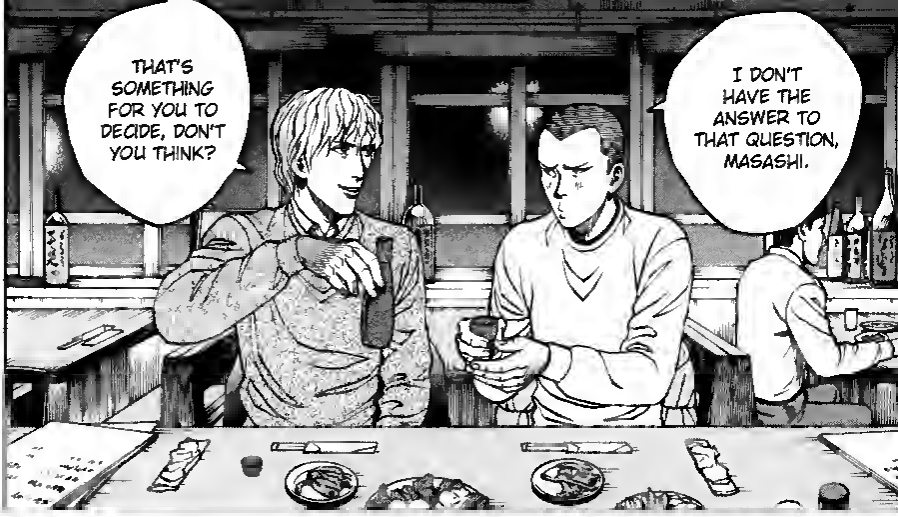

THAT'S SOMETHING FOR YOU TO DECIDE, DON'T YOU THINK?
I DON'T HAVE THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION, MASASHI.

MASASHI... YOU'RE HEADING THE PASTA SECTION.

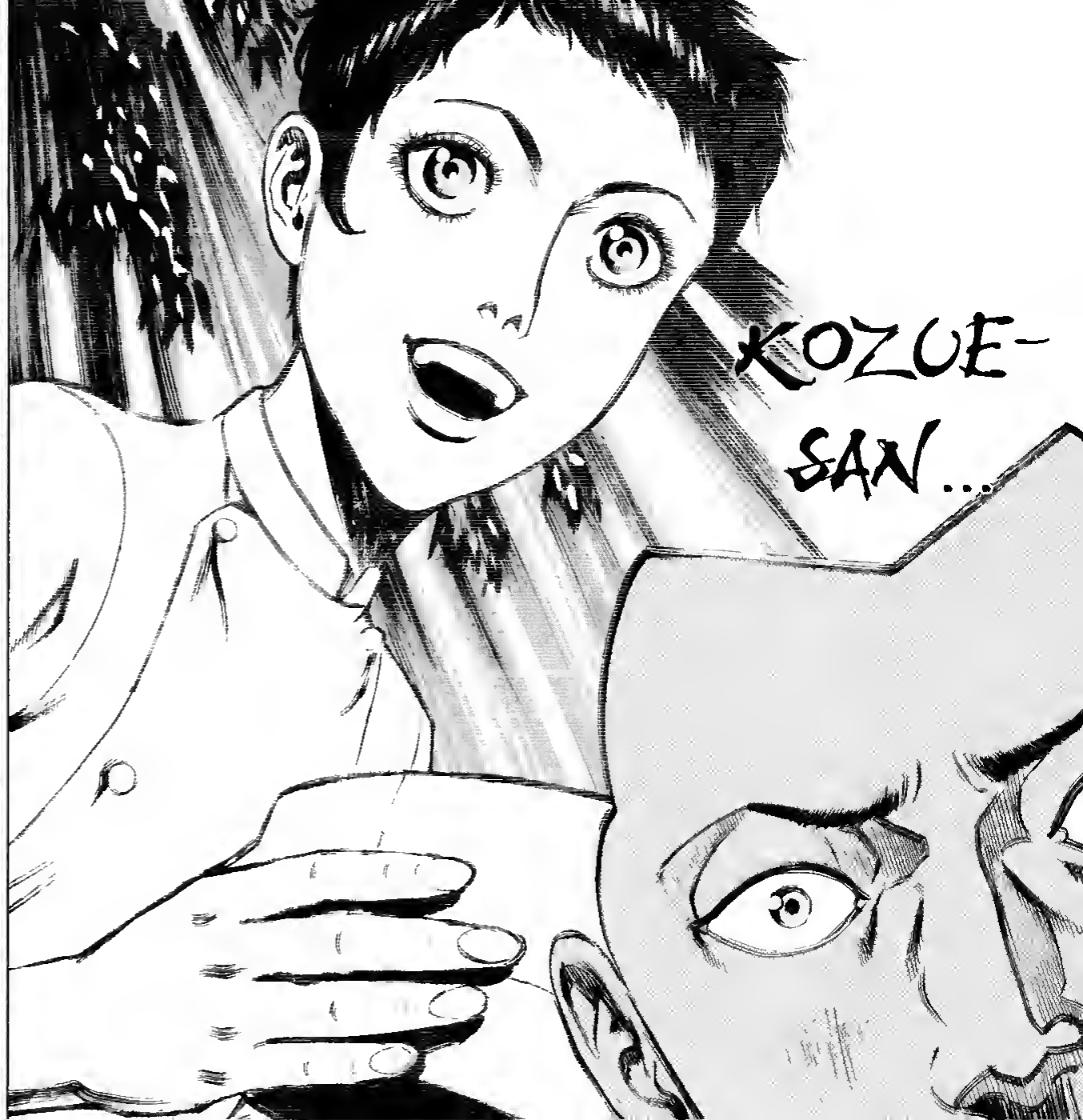
WELL, I CAN TELL YOU ONE THING.
PEOPLE WHO CAN'T IMPROVE THEMSELVES DON'T HAVE A CHANCE OF SURVIVING IN OUR LINE OF WORK.

HOW ABOUT CREATING A DISH OF YOUR OWN?
THE PERSON I LOVE...
A WHOLE NEW DISH?
BUT...
I CAN'T REALLY THINK OF ANYTHING ...
COME ON, MAN. IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE!
JUST MAKE SOMETHING YOU'D WANT TO GIVE TO THE PERSON YOU LOVE!

THANKS FOR THE ADVICE!

YOU WANT ME TO TRY OUT SOME-THING YOU MADE? TONIGHT?

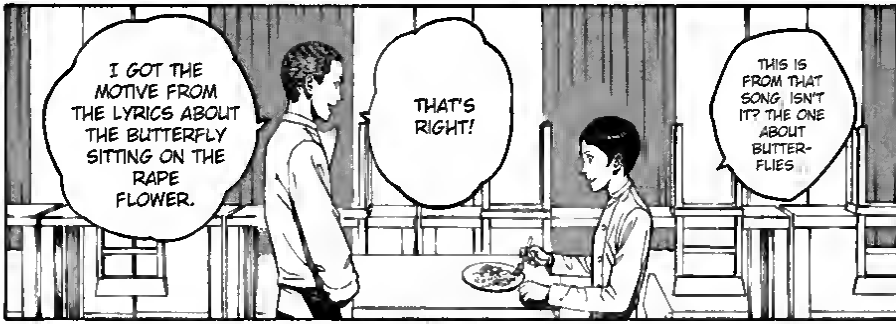
YEAH.


KOZUE-SAN...

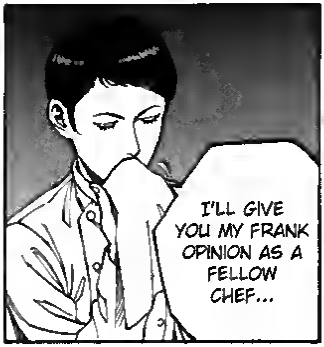
WELL, I THOUGHT UP THIS DISH I THINK IS PRETTY INTERESTING, AND I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD GIVE IT A TRY.
WELL, I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT, BUT WHAT'S THE OCCASION, SENOH-SAN?

ADD ALREADY BOILED PASTA AND GIVE IT A FEW TOSSES.
TOSS IN SOME CLAMS AND WATER, THEN COVER AND LET BOIL UNTIL THE CLAMS ARE COMPLETELY COOKED.
ADD RAPE FLOWERS TO A FRYPAN AND COOK OVER HIGH HEAT, AND THEN TOSS IN EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL.

ALRIGHT, IT'S READY!
FARFALLE TOSSED WITH RAPE FLOWERS AND CLAMS!
THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE DISH IS SPRING VEGETABLES!


I GOT THE MOTIVE FROM THE LYRICS ABOUT THE BUTTERFLY SITTING ON THE RAPE FLOWER.
THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS IS FROM THAT SONG, ISN'T IT? THE ONE ABOUT BUTTER-FLIES

T/N: The song is "Chouchou (Butterfly)," a widely known children's song.



BACCANALE IS A RESTAURANT FOR ADULTS.

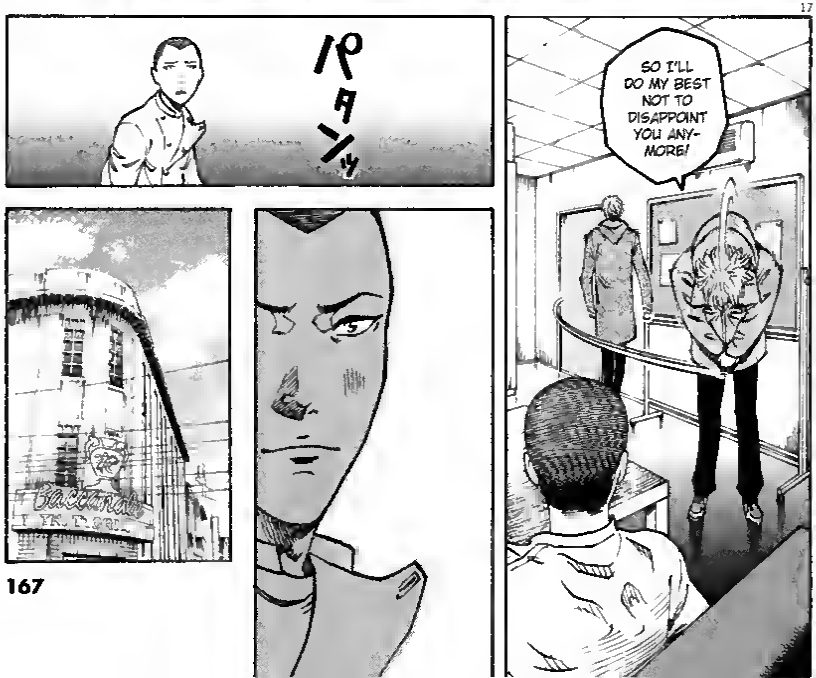
16

I JUST FEEL LIKE IT DOESN'T FIT WITH BACCANALE'S IMAGE AT ALL.
DO YOU REALLY THINK A DISH BASED ON A CHILDREN'S SONG WOULD BE A GOOD CHOICE FOR OUR STORE REGARDLESS OF HOW GOOD IT TASTES?

IN A WORD, IT'S JUST CHILDISH.

...HIROSE.
SENOH-SAN.
I JUST WANTED TO APOLOGIZE FOR DRAGGING YOU DOWN ALL THE TIME...
BUT I REALLY WANT TO BECOME A GREAT CHEF, JUST LIKE YOU, SENOH-SAN

17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SO I'LL DO MY BEST NOT TO DISAPPOINT YOU ANY-MORE!

I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT!
AGAIN? TONIGHT...?
YEAH!
I'M TRYING OUT SOMETHING NEW, TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM YESTERDAY!

I'M WARNING YOU, I'M NOT GOING TO HOLD ANYTHING BACK.
FINE BY ME!
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good luck!

Hunt

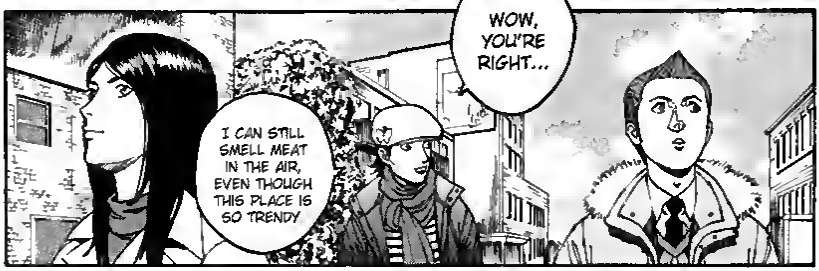
Chapter 130: Caccia (1)

GOOD THING THE WEATHER'S SO BEAUTIFUL TODAY.
HARADA-SHAN, IS THIS CAR...
HMM? OH, YES. IT'S A RENTAL, OF COURSE.
NOT MANY NEW YORKERS OWN CARS.
NOW, LET'S MAKE THE BEST OF THIS RARE VACATION, SHALL WE?

WE'LL VISIT ALL THE PLACES MANHATTAN HAS TO OFFER, THE THREE OF US.

A FEW OF THE OLD SLAUGHTER-HOUSES ARE STILL IN BUSINESS,
BUT THE RISING PRICE OF REAL ESTATE FORCED MOST OF THEM TO SHUT DOWN.
LET'S START OFF WITH THE MEATPACKING DISTRICT, WHERE PIONIERE IS.
MEAT PACK-ING?
MHMM. THIS STREET USED TO BE FOR SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

A LOT OF CAFES, CLUBS, AND BOUTIQUES SPRANG UP IN THEIR PLACE. NOWADAYS, THEY CALL THIS STREET NEW YORK'S MOST FASHIONABLE NEIGHBORHOOD.


I CAN STILL SMELL MEAT IN THE AIR, EVEN THOUGH THIS PLACE IS SO TRENDY
WOW, YOU'RE RIGHT...

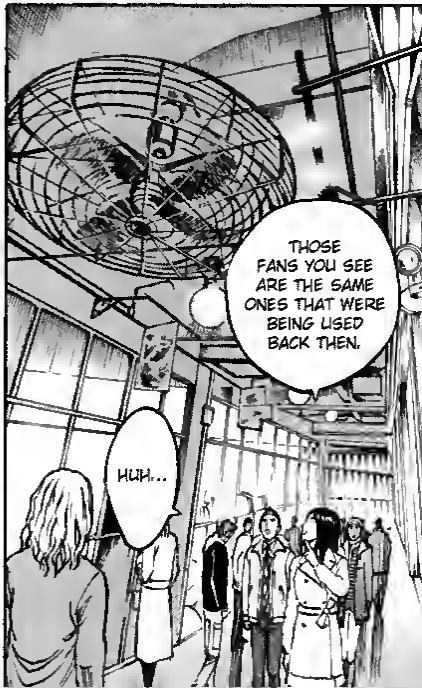
NEW YORK HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT RECYCLING WHAT IT ALREADY HAS.
I NEVER KNEW THE NEIGHBORHOOD I WORKED IN WAS SO TRENDY.

EXIT

THIS IS CHELSEA MARKET, A SHOPPING MALL BUILT ON WHAT USED TO BE A HUGE COOKIE FACTORY COMPLEX.

FEELS KINDA RETRO, DON'T IT?

WESTERNERS ARE REALLY CAREFUL ABOUT USING THEIR OLD BUILDINGS, YOU SEE
IT'S AWESOME!


THOSE FANS YOU SEE ARE THE SAME ONES THAT WERE BEING USED BACK THEN.
HUH...

YOU KNOW, THAT PLACE IN NEW YORK WHERE ALL THE ITALIANS LIVE?
OH, LITTLE ITALY.
MMM.
WHAT'S LITTLE ITALY LIKE?
IS THERE ANYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO IN PARTICULAR?

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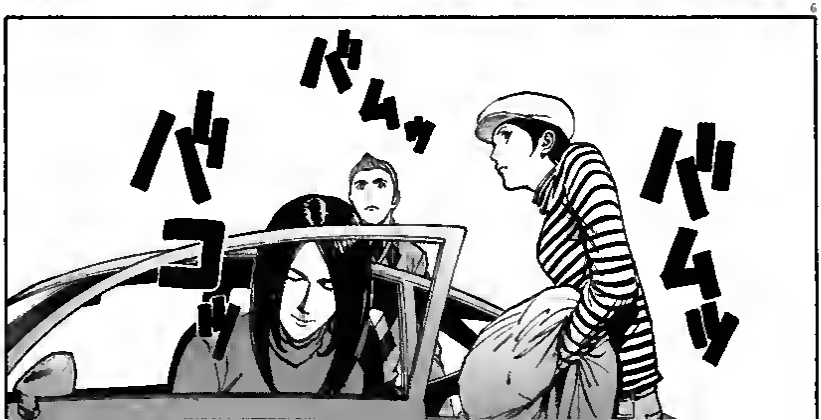
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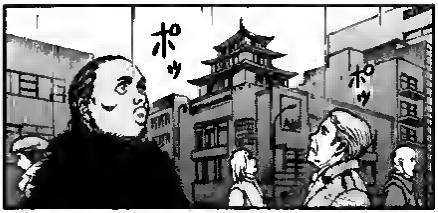
WAIT, THIS PLACE ISN'T...
HMM?
MOST OF LITTLE ITALY'S BEEN ABSORBED BY CHINATOWN, YOU SEE.
NOT QUITE WHAT YOU WERE EXPECTING, IS IT?
I SEE...
NOWADAYS, YOU'LL ONLY SEE THE OCCASIONAL ITALIAN RESTAURANT AROUND HERE
MOST OF THE ITALIANS WHO USED TO LIVE HERE IN THE PAST HAVE MADE A LOT OF MONEY AND MOVED OUT TO THE SUBURBS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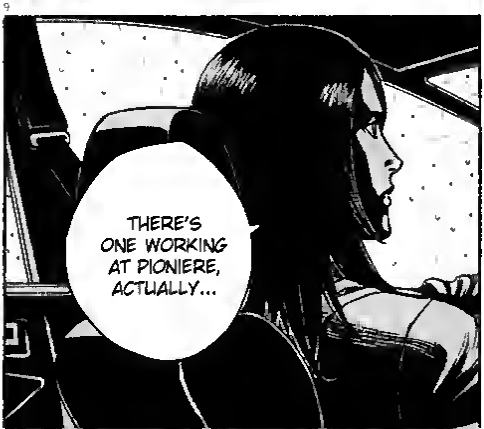
WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT... GROUND ZERO?

GROUND ZERO...
YOU MEAN, AS IN 9/11?

HARADA-SHAN, WHERE WERE YOU ON...?

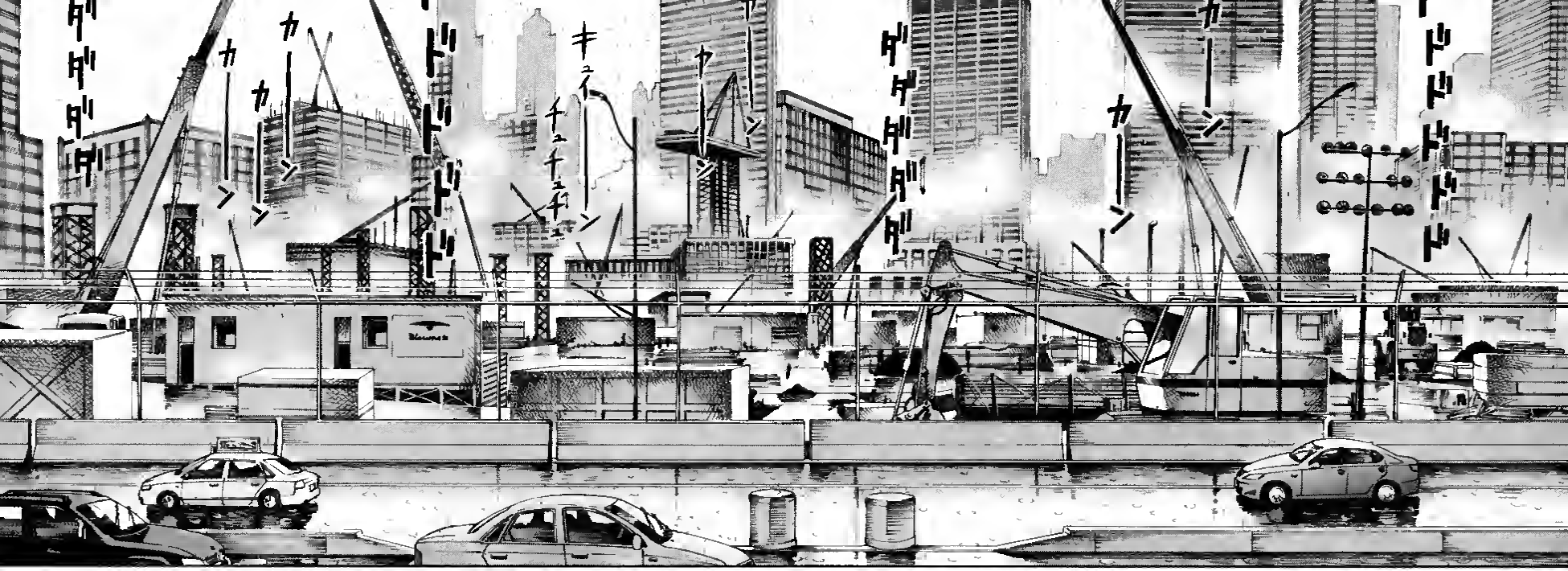
I WAS STILL IN JAPAN, ATTENDING SCHOOL.
WHEN I SAW THE NEWS ON TV, I COULDN'T STOP THE CHILLS I FELT...

HAVE YOU MET ANYONE HERE WHO... WHO LOST SOMEONE?


THERE'S ONE WORKING AT PIONIERE, ACTUALLY...

COYOTE BLADES.

HE CAME HERE FROM MEXICO WITH HIS LOVER. HE LOST HER WHEN THE TOWERS FELL.
WHAT...?!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THEY'LL OVERCOME THEIR SADNESS, AND MAKE THEIR WAY FORWARD.

NOW, WE'RE COMING UP ON NOLITA. THERE ARE A LOT OF RETAIL BOUTIQUES AROUND HERE
ブロロロ
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE CLOTHES?
I THINK THEY SHOULD BE ROLLING OUT THE SPRING LINEUP BY NOW
YES, LET'S!
……

UHH...
WOULD YOU TWO MIND IF I STEPPED OUTSIDE FOR A LITTLE?
YOU CAN GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU'RE DONE.
SURE, SURE!

HE LOST HER WHEN THE TOWERS FELL.
I NEVER KNEW COYOTE HAD SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN HIS PAST...
I GUESS HE'S HIDING HIS SADNESS? DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT. BUT...

Bambi! We've got two weeks left.
Are you going to take the catering job?

I GOTTA ADMIT, CATERING'S REALLY FUN, BUT DOIN' IT FOR THE MAFIA... CAN'T SAY I'M EXACTLY RARIN' TO GO ON THAT ONE.
Just little more time, please!
I need you to make a decision soon, either way
Uhh
Hmph..
OOF?
ドンッ

This shit's a thousand bucks per bottle!
What the hell, man?
You're gonna have to pay for this!

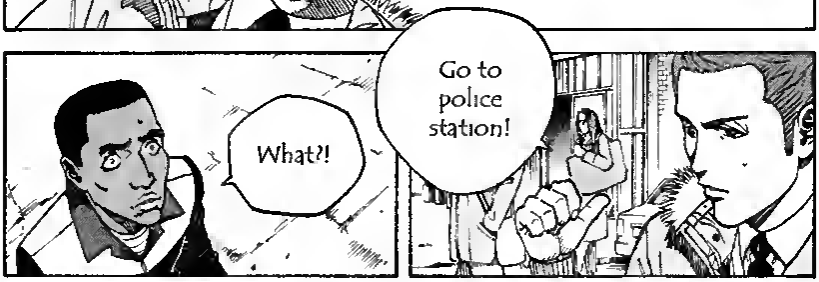
WHAT...
This shit's a thousand bucks a bottle, man!
ガシッ
Chapter-131: Caccia (2)
You're gonna have to pay for this!

A BOTTLE ATTACKER?!

Hunt

Chapter 131: Caccia (2)

I'VE HEARD OF THIS KINDA THING!
THEY BUMP INTO TOURISTS AND RIP 'EM OFF WITH OVERPRICED WINE!
BUT I KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THIS...

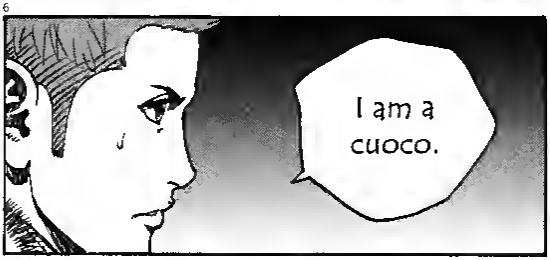

Go to police station!
What?!

I GOT YOUR NUMBER, PAL. THIS IS GONNA BE SOME CHEAP AS HELL WINE, RIGHT?
ゴッ
Show me.

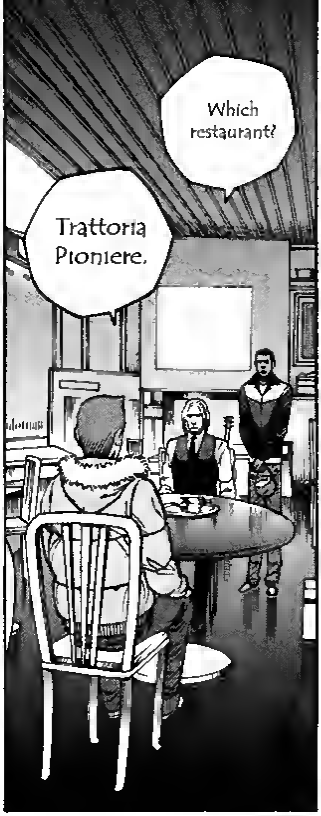
1954 Château Fontesteau, and 1958 Château Montrose.
Both of 'em are vintage wines!
THEY'RE THE REAL THING...?!

This way
WINE BAR
Ari
A WINE BAR?
HE'S NOT A BOTTLE ATTACKER?!
I'll take you to see my boss. You can talk it out with him

What are you doing in this city?


I am a cuoco.

WOMAN
WOMEN
We work with them, you know


Which restaurant?
Trattoria Pioniere.

Hey.

Two broken.
Two thousand.

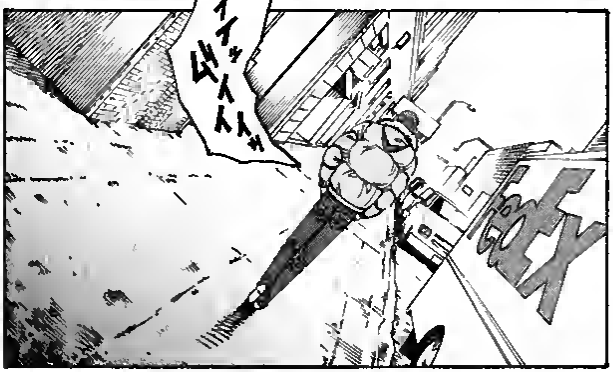
This wine
Thousand dollars

HE WANTS ME TO PAY TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN...
You pay all.
I GUESS IT WAS MY FAULT FOR NOT PAYING ATTENTION...

I, UHH... I write phone number for you
I understand BUT CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME TIME?
A WOMAN

ブロロロロ

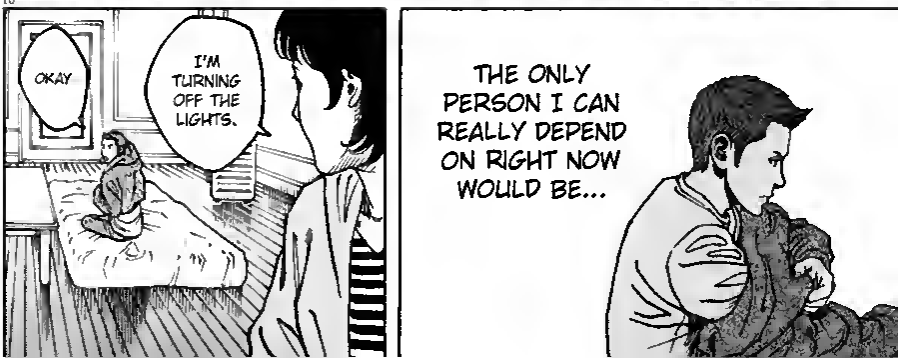
TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN...


ダァァァァァ
FOX

OKAY.
WE'RE JUST ABOUT FINISHED SHOPPING.
COULD YOU COME OVER AND HELP A LITTLE? THERE'S A LOT TO CARRY!

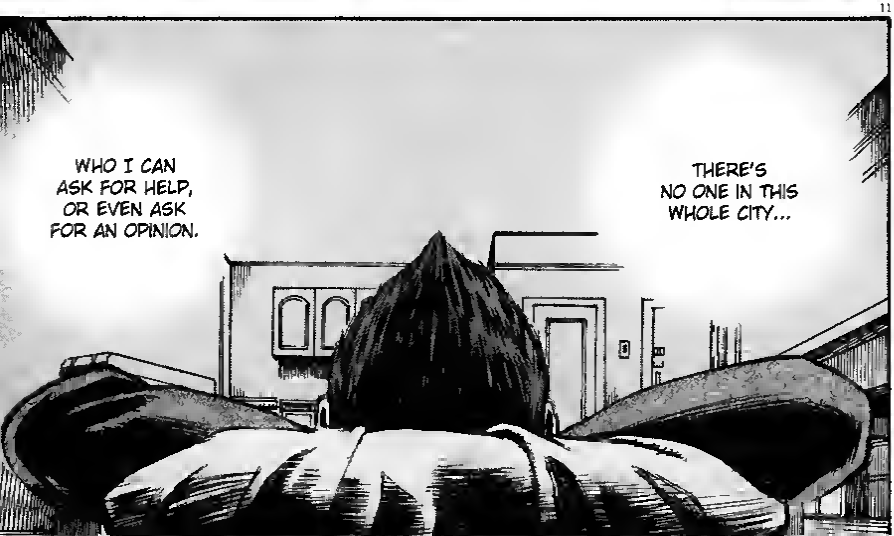
…
HELLO?
HELLO? BAMBI?

I GOT ABOUT A HUNDRED THOUSAND SAVED UP...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER HALF?
WHAT'S WITH THIS MAPO TOFU? IT'S TERRIBLE!
SHOULD I BORROW IT FROM ONE OF THE PIONIERE CHEFS?
NONE OF THE CHINESE RESTAURANTS AROUND HERE ACTUALLY HAVE CHINESE CHEFS.
...NO, I CAME HERE TO TRAIN. NO WAY I COULD DO SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SHOWING US AROUND TODAY! I HAD SO MUCH FUN!
WE'RE GOING TO BE WORKING AGAIN TOMORROW, SO BE SURE TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST!


I'M TURNING OFF THE LIGHTS.
OKAY
THE ONLY PERSON I CAN REALLY DEPEND ON RIGHT NOW WOULD BE...

HELL NO!

NO WAY I CAN LEAN ON ASUKA-SHAN LIKE THAT.


WHO I CAN ASK FOR HELP, OR EVEN ASK FOR AN OPINION.
THERE'S NO ONE IN THIS WHOLE CITY...

WHAT THE HELL
AM I GONNA DO?

Good morning!
COYOTE-SHAN.

The mafia party...
Catering job in two weeks.

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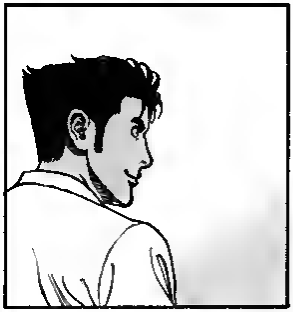
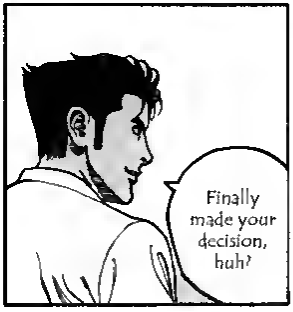
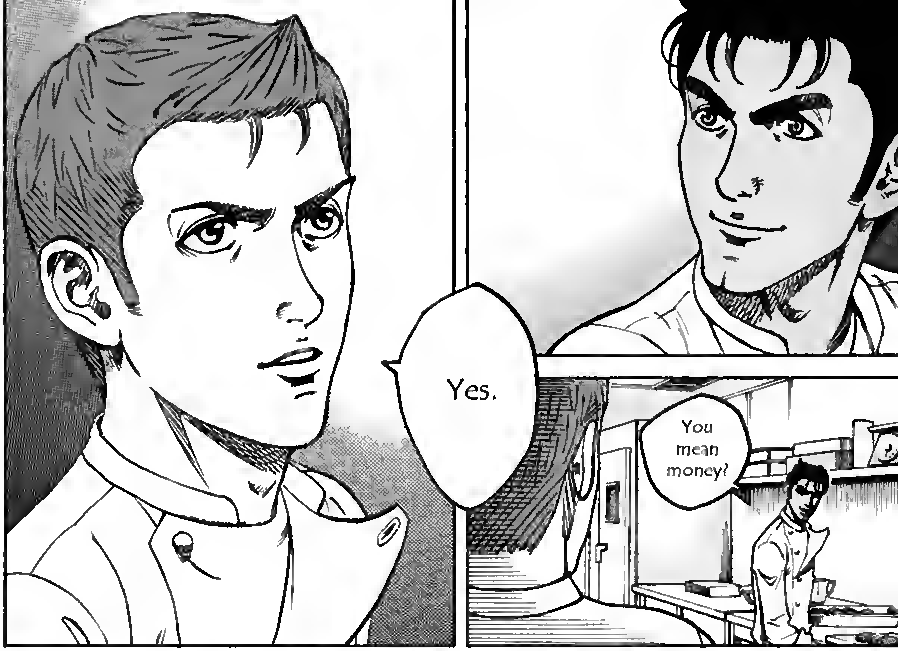




...You can pay me, right?


Yes.
You mean money?

Hey now, René. How long are you going to keep eating?

Bye, daddy! Love you!
Take care, honey. Daddy loves you too.
Stop rushing me!
You'll be late for school
Mommy's leaving in ten minutes, dear!

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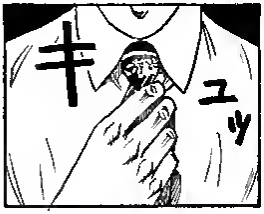
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ユッ

Good morning!
Mornin', boss.
BAMBINO! 12 FIN

バンビ～ノ！12

ビッグ コミックス

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